

## Aziz starts Washington trip

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz left for Washington Friday for talks with U.S. President Ronald Reagan, amid speculation the two countries were to resume diplomatic ties shortly, after a 17-year rupture. The Iraqi News Agency said Mr. Aziz was to confer also with Vice-President George Bush and Secretary of State George Shultz. It gave no details about the nature of the planned talks. The agency added without elaborating that Mr. Aziz was to make a one-day stopover in Paris, on his way to the United States, for a session of talks with his French counterpart Claude Cheysson. France is one of Iraq's major suppliers of warplanes and military hardware.

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## Habash, Hawatmeh leave Moscow

MOSCOW (AP) — Leaders of leftist Palestinian factions held talks in Moscow this week and expressed a desire for continuing unity of the PLO, the official news agency TASS said Friday. The agency gave little indication, however, that the Soviets and their visitors reached agreement on how to preserve PLO unity. TASS named those who visited Moscow as George Habash and T. Koubba of the PFLP, Nayef Hawatmeh and Yasser Abd-Rabou of the DFLP, Talaat Yaquob of the Palestine Liberation Front and S. Nadjab of the Palestinian Communist Party. It said "they emphasised their determination to preserve the cohesion of the Palestinian resistance movement," of the PLO as representative of the Palestinian people and to develop PLO cooperation with other Arabs. (Continued on page 5)

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# King opens PNC with call for joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative

'We do not commit you to our vision, nor seek to impose it on you... the decision is yours'  
 'I have never stood, nor will stand in want of courage for the sake of Jerusalem and Palestine'

By P.V. Vivekanand  
 Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein opened the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Thursday with a clearly-defined call on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to joint Jordan in a joint approach towards peace efforts in the Middle East which would ensure the legitimate rights of the Palestinians in their homeland and to self-determination.

In his address to a gathering of over 3,500 people at the Palace of Culture, the King said his proposal was based on the concept of United Nations Security Council Resolution 242 which would be expanded at an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties concerned, including the PLO, and members of the Security Council.

The current situation in the Middle East in general and the occupied territories in particular is "bleak," the King said, stressing that the situation warrants a "fresh outlook and fresh approach."

The new outlook must begin by defining a future course of action," the King told the gathering which included a good majority of the world's Palestinian leadership.

Jordanian cabinet members, prominent Jordanian and Palestinian personalities and Arab and foreign observers to the PNC meeting and a large number of journalists representing almost every news agency, international television network and newspaper.

However, the King added, Jordan would respect the decision of the PNC whether to join his call which he described as "an honest attempt to draw up a joint position."

"The international position at large is one that perceives the possibility of restoring the occupied territories through a Jordanian-Palestinian formula which requires commitments from both our parties considered by the world as necessary for the achievement of a just, balanced and peaceful settlement."



Jordanian and Palestinian leaders, headed by His Majesty King Hussein and Mr. Yasser Arafat, observe a minute of silence in memory of

Palestinian martyrs at the outset of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council Thursday (Photo by Youssef Al Allan)

The decision was open to the PNC, the King said. "If, on the other hand, you believe that the PLO is capable of doing it alone, then we say to you: 'God speed! You have our support.' In the final analysis, the decision is yours. "Whatever it is, we will respect it because it emanates from your

esteemed council, which is the representative of the Palestinian people."

The PNC meeting in Amman, "represents a unity of will between you and your people," King Hussein said. The convening of the council here also demonstrates "the strength of your deter-

mination, the clarity of your purpose and the depth of your national unity," he added. "In so doing, you have affirmed your legitimate representation of your people, who have renewed their confidence in you."

"Similarly, this event stands for a coalescence of effort and deter-

mination by two brotherly peoples who are fused together in confrontation of one and the same challenge, of one and the same source of danger," the King continued. "It is a natural return to the normal state of affairs, to a condition that ought to continue without interruption."

Reiterating Jordan's stand that the Kingdom will not speak on behalf of the Palestinians, "although it is fully prepared to join you in facing our common destiny," the King said enough time has been wasted on "disagreement, conflict and discrimination" on the Arab level.

"We do not commit you to our vision, nor do we seek to impose it on you," the King said. "The decision is yours, and so is the responsibility. We offer it (the initiative) to you out of a sense of sharing — whether in peace or in danger, for good or for bad. We are prepared to do anything for your cause — our cause — except conclude a separate peace."

The King briefly reviewed the events starting from the 1947 Palestine Partition Resolution, the wars that followed it and the emergence of the PLO as an active participant in the Palestinian scene, the United States resolutions on the Middle East conflict, the U.S. role in the issue, the Rabat summit resolutions which shifted the "political burden"

from Jordan to the PLO, "as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

He also reviewed the political aspects of the Palestinian problem and Israel's persistence in refusing to talk to the PLO and its demands that all negotiations should be with Jordan.

He said "Israel's intention was to generate an atmosphere of confusion and to paralyse any political activity relating to the Palestinian dimension of the Middle East crisis" and to "gain time that would enable it to accelerate the pace of change of the status quo in the occupied Palestinian territories, with Arab Jerusalem heading the list."

"The late President Nasser urged me in our first meeting after the June war to do all in my power to regain the occupied territories," the King told the conference. "Indeed no urging in this regard, as I never stood in want of courage, nor would I, for the sake of Jerusalem and Palestine."

"With God's grace, proceed with your deliberations," the King wished the PNC. "Look to Jerusalem and place your faith in God. In His Almighty name I open your 17th session, calling upon Him to bless you with success and to make the rescue of the people and the land your foremost consideration."

Full text of speech on page 4

## Arafat pledges joint efforts to thwart Israeli schemes

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Palestinians and Jordanians will struggle together to thwart Israeli schemes to establish a substitute homeland for the Palestinian people in Jordan, Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat said Thursday.

"The Palestinian people will not accept anywhere but Palestine for their homeland, and will fight along with the Jordanian people to

foil schemes by Israel's Ariel Sharon to create a substitute homeland in Jordan," he said.

Speaking at the opening session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Thursday, Mr. Arafat outlined four significant meanings behind convening the council in Amman.

Firstly, holding the council in Amman, only a few kilometres away from the Israeli-occupied Arab territories, indicates the continuation of the "Palestinian revolution" and the failure of Israeli-American schemes to disregard the Palestinian people and their cause from the political equation of the Middle East, Mr. Arafat said.

Secondly, convening the council despite all efforts exerted to paralyse Palestinian institutions, through trying to impede the holding of the council or to postpone it, reflects "our people's staunch

opposition" and the failure of Israeli-American schemes to disregard the Palestinian people and their cause from the political equation of the Middle East, Mr. Arafat said.

Thirdly, convening the council despite all efforts exerted to paralyse Palestinian institutions, through trying to impede the holding of the council or to postpone it, reflects "our people's staunch

opposition" and the failure of Israeli-American schemes to disregard the Palestinian people and their cause from the political equation of the Middle East, Mr. Arafat said.



His Majesty King Hussein and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat embrace each other at the opening of the 17th session of the Palestine National Council in Amman on Thursday (Photo by Youssef Al Allan)

## PNC sacks Fahoum, elects Sheikh Saeh as new speaker

By Lamis K. Andoni  
 Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Friday replaced Khaled Al Fahoum with Sheikh Abdul Hamid Saeh as PNC speaker. The move to replace the Damascus-based Fahoum was approved by a good majority of the 257 PNC members present during session. In the resolution calling for his ouster, members accused him of violating the PNC statute by refusing to convene the council as asked for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat in a memorandum sent to the speaker earlier this month which was followed by an urgent demand by over a quarter of the council's members calling for the 17th session.

The call for replacing Mr. Fahoum was endorsed by 207 members when the issue was put to the vote. PNC Deputy Speaker Salim Za'oun, who conducted the voting process, did not announce the number of PNC members opposing the move despite some calls



Sheikh Abdul Hamid Saeh

upon him from the floor to do so.

Mr. Saeh, an Amman-based PNC member, was elected by a wide margin: 188 votes in favour with four against. Eleven abstained while six votes were declared invalid.

The election of a new speaker followed a heated, but rather revealing, debate in which a large number of PNC members and senior PLO officials, including Cha-

irman Arafat, took part. Most members who spoke were in favour of relieving Mr. Fahoum but differed on procedures to do so.

Ibrahim Abu Ayash, who represented the opposition, was notably outspoken and argued on political and legal basis against dismissing Mr. Fahoum.

The issue of replacing the former speaker came up while part of the agenda of the council was presented for the members for approval. The debate was provoked when Mr. Abu Ayash, a PNC member living in Amman, asked for the removal of the election item from the agenda "in order to give a chance for the reunification of Palestinian ranks."

He also argued that Mr. Fahoum's three-year term was not over yet and the PNC had no right to remove him. But Mr. Arafat and several members of the Fateh Central Committee shot back that "the PNC is the constitutional forum which can decide the status of Mr. Fahoum who refused to call

(Continued on page 5)

## PLO to study Hussein call for initiative

By Lamis K. Andoni  
 Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — His Majesty King Hussein's call on the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative based on the principle of exchanging peace for land is being seriously considered by the PLO leadership and will be studied by the new leadership of the organisation.

The deputy commander of PLO forces, Khalil Al Wazir, told the Jordan Times Friday that the King's proposal, which he said, contained many "important, political dimensions," was being viewed seriously by the PLO and will be studied by the new Executive Committee, expected to be elected by the current session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) which opened Thursday.

King Hussein, opening the PNC session Thursday, called for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative at as the starting point for an international conference on the basis of U.N. Security Council Resolution 242.

But Mr. Wazir said that "the PLO's stance towards U.N. Resolution 242 is clear and has not changed." He explained that Resolution 242 does not measure up to the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people since it refers to the Palestinians as refugees and denies them the right to statehood.

The Palestinian official reiterated the PLO's commitment to an Arab peace plan endorsed at an

Arab summit in the Moroccan city of Fez in 1983. The plan calls for an independent Palestinian state on the now Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip under the leadership of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Wazir said the PLO "welcomes joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves and joint Arab action on the Arab and international arenas provided "they do not encroach upon the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination and to establish an independent state on the liberated territories of Palestine and on the right of the PLO to be the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Mr. Wazir and Salah Khalaf, a senior member of the Central Committee of Fateh, also told reporters political moves must be coupled with an "escalation of the military struggle."

"The military struggle is a must," said Mr. Khalaf. "Escalation of the military struggle must be coupled with a political initiative. Experience has proved that the two are inseparable."

In another statement later Friday to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Khalaf said the PLO "agrees in principle" with the concept of joint Jordanian-Palestinian moves. However, he reiterated that the issue has to be dealt with during the sessions of the PNC when the delegates will draw up a framework for Jordanian-Palestinian coo-

operation.

In his statement to Petra, Mr. Khalaf also praised Jordanian-Palestinian relations and said both Jordan and the PLO agreed from the beginning that some form of a joint move is needed.

He called for Arab-Palestinian solidarity and Arab "cohesion to present a peace initiative to the world." He said such an initiative should not be far from the concept of the Fez resolutions or based on Resolution 242. "The PLO remains committed to the Fez resolutions," he said.

But, he said, "divisions within the Arab World do not enable it to adopt any settlement because Arab unity is the basic support any Arab action or initiative."

"We will continue the armed struggle in the meantime," Mr. Khalaf told Petra. "Armed struggle is not the end, but a means to achieve our goals," he added.

Petra quoted PLO Central Council member Nabil Ali Sha'ath as saying the King's speech was "very frank and important, especially that it contained some important points."

King Hussein's address received "the full support of the PLO and the Palestinian people, as the same issues he stressed were also emphasised during the 16th session" of the PNC held in February, 1983 in Algiers and Mr. Arafat's speech which preceded the King's address, Dr. Sha'ath told Petra.

The PLO leadership will examine the King's call in detail, he said.

Dr. Sha'ath also said the Palestinian people attach "great hopes to the current PNC session" and are looking forward to the day when a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement is reached, "because such an agreement will alleviate their suffering and make the liberation day closer."

In the meantime, Palestinians everywhere welcomed the King's speech and said that the contents of the speech are "steps on the road to the liberation of Palestine and the restoration of occupied Arab lands."

The exiled mayor of Halhoul, Mohammad Milhem, said: "The King's speech was clear and frank and we are in the stage of clarity as His Majesty told the Palestinian people that he does not want to impose an opinion on them."

Mr. Milhem called on the PLO to present a "frank proposal which is within available Palestinian, Arab and international capabilities" as set by King Hussein.

Worshippers who performed Friday prayers at Al Aqsa Mosque in occupied Jerusalem expressed their full support for holding the PNC meetings in Amman. In a cable which they sent to the PNC, the worshippers expressed their full support for holding the 17th session in Amman and for the Palestinian legitimacy.

They also wished the PNC session every success to enable the Palestinian people to restore their legitimate rights for self-determination and to build their independent state on Palestinian national soil.

## PNC to result in increased attacks, Peres says

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres does not expect the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to take up His Majesty King Hussein's call for a joint peace initiative, according to Mr. Peres' spokesman.

Uri Savir, in a telephone interview on King Hussein's inaugural address to the Palestine National Council (PNC) Thursday and his call for negotiations based on "territory for peace," told the Associated Press Friday: "We don't believe that the PLO will accept his call for to take the political line. Past experience has shown that divisions in the Arab World, including the PLO, have only sparked competition over a radical line."

The spokesman reiterated Mr. Peres' call for separate talks with Jordan on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

"We renew our call to King Hussein to enter negotiations with us without preconditions," Mr. Savir said. Jordan has refused to enter any separate talks with Israel.

Mr. Peres said Thursday he (Continued on page 5)

## Israelis kill demonstrator

RAMALLAH, Occupied West Bank (Agencies) — Israeli troops in the occupied West Bank Thursday shot dead a Palestinian demonstrator, the second Arab student killed by Israeli gunfire in two days, the military said.

A military spokesman linked the clashes to the start of the Palestine National Council (PNC), whose long-awaited meeting opened in Amman Thursday.

He claimed the troops opened fire after about stone-throwing demonstrators in Ramallah's main square refused to disperse and began to flee.

A Palestinian student was killed and six others wounded when Israeli troops opened fire during a similar demonstration at Birzeit University in Ramallah.

Hospital officials identified the dead student as Bakir Ali Abdullah, 20. After the incident, Israeli paratroopers armed with

sub-machineguns took up rooftop positions overlooking the square. The director of Ramallah hospital told Reuters by telephone that two wounded demonstrators were admitted for treatment and one later died. Israeli occupation

forces declared the hospital a closed military area, barring journalists.

Shortly afterwards, Israeli paratroopers entered the town and took up rooftop positions overlooking the main square.

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## Arab-Asian seminar focuses on Third World problems

By Olga Mikhael  
Special to the Jordan Times

**AMMAN** — The three-day Arab-Asian seminar concluded its meetings here Thursday, by stressing four broad areas of common priority concern which include the debt problem, transfer of technology, energy needs and food and health needs.

At the end of the seminar, which was attended by 50 intellectuals from South, South East Asia, the Arab World and held under the auspices of the Arab Thought Forum, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, suggested that further meetings of this nature should be held without delay in other regions of the South.

A communique was issued at the end of the seminar calling for developing a process of South-South collaboration, not only through a continuous dialogue, information and cultural exchange and face-to-face contacts, but also through promoting inter-regional business and trading enterprise.

The issued communique suggested the establishment of appropriate institutions in the South to provide the credit and debt

management in the interest of the developing world.

On technology the meeting proposed to continue negotiations with the North on the restructuring of their relationship with the South in a new industrial division of labour.

Concerning food the meeting suggested that an increase in sharing of knowledge between the North and the South, on such matters as improved cultivation, promotion and use of fertilisers, land reclamation for farming and pest control.

On energy the meeting proposed that the South needs more technology from the North on systems of conservation, finding and developing new sources of conventional fuels and on development of alternative sources.

The meeting identified the im-

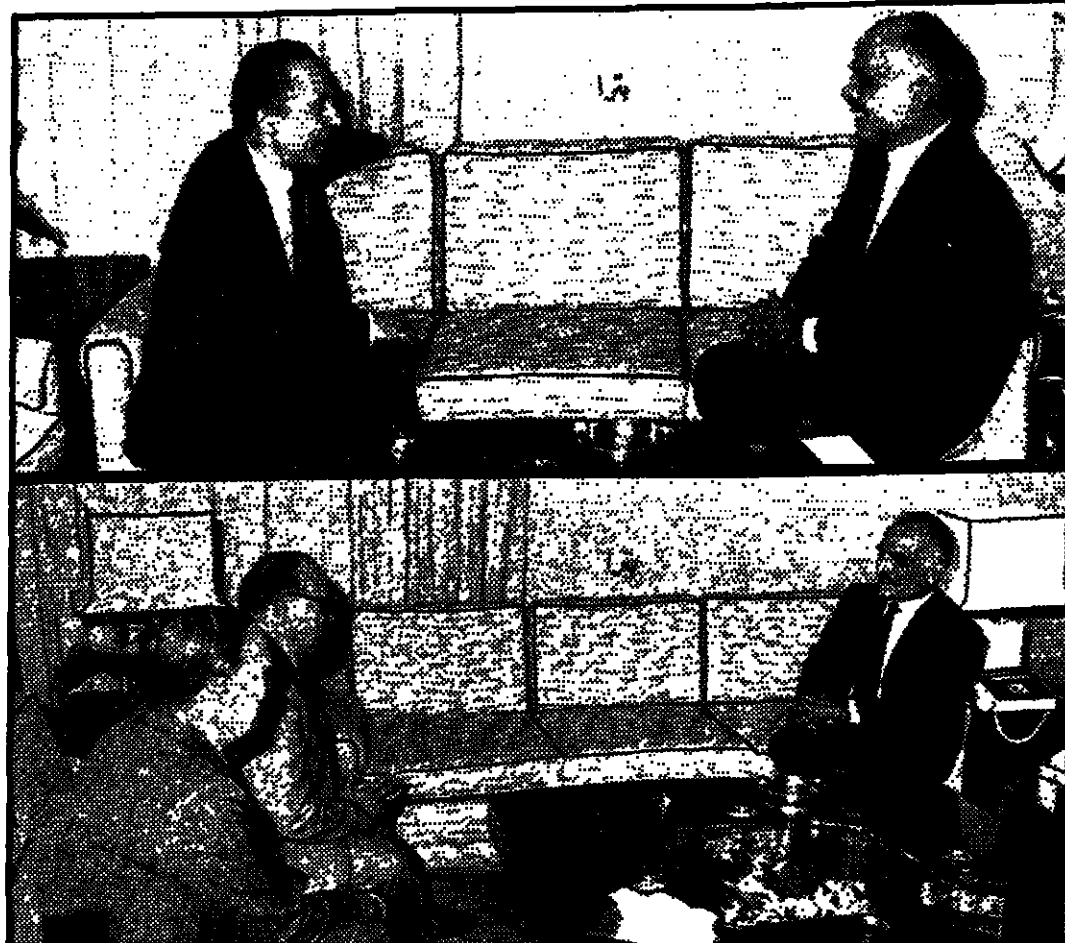
provement of the South's capacity to mine the oceans, to improve the use of land and water and develop human resources.

It was proposed that the South should use existing institution and forge inter-regional links for training, financing, research on new technologies, market exploration and development.

Part of the Arab-Asian seminar dealt with the new international economic order that was brought about by a North-South dialogue. The meeting proposed that the Soviet Union and the Comecon countries should be included in the North-South dialogue in order to fulfil the new international economic order.

The meeting suggested the holding of inter-regional discussions at the highest levels to promote practical South-South cooperation.

At the end the meeting the delegates proposed a step by step approach to future action by continuing dialogues with existing regional institutions in the South including institutions such as the Organisation of Islamic Conference.



**MEETINGS WITH THE MONARCH** — His Majesty King Hussein Thursday met with Arab League Secretary General Chadi Kibbi (above left) and reviewed the latest developments in the Arab arena. Mr. Kibbi left Amman Friday evening after a two-day visit to Jordan during which he addressed the opening meeting of the Palestine Na-

tional Council's (PNC) 17th session. King Hussein later received Mr. Ahmad Ibn Soudah (below left), the special advisor to King Hassan II of Morocco, who conveyed a message to King Hussein from King Hassan. Mr. Ibn Soudah is currently representing Morocco at the PNC meetings. (Petra photo)

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Obeidat receives Na'im Haddad

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Thursday received member of the Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council Na'im Haddad who is currently in Jordan to attend the PNC meetings, currently being held in Amman. Attending the meeting was Iraq's ambassador to Jordan Ibrahim Shuja' al Sultan.

### Cuban envoy presents credentials

**AMMAN (Petra)** — Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masi Thursday received the credentials of Cuba's non-resident ambassador to Jordan.

### One dies in car-camel accident

**MA'AN (J.T.)** — A 50-year-old woman was killed and her 25-year-old son was injured when the car they were travelling in hit a camel on the Desert Highway, some 40 kilometres north of Ma'an, according to reports in the Arabic press. The injured, Issam Mohsen Abdul Aziz, who was driving the car, was rushed to Ma'an hospital for treatment.

### Jordan to take part in AVU meetings

**AMMAN (Petra)** — A delegation from the Jordanian Veterinarian Association left for Baghdad to take part in the meetings of the Arab Veterinarian Union (AVU) which are due to open Saturday. The delegation is led by Dr. Abdul Fattah Al Keilani, the association president, who said that the delegates will discuss a report by the union secretariat on the drive to Arabise university courses for vets and to establish specialised societies in the Arab World to take care of the Arabian horse. The four-day gathering, he said, will also look into training and teaching courses for Arab vets and coordination among Arab states to develop animal wealth in a bid to ensure Arab food security. Dr. Keilani is accompanied by a three member delegation.

### \$114 million pledged for UNRWA

**NEW YORK (USIA)** — More than \$114 million was donated by 39 countries to the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) at a Nov. 19 pledging conference. The United States was the largest single contributor, pledging \$67 million, more than half the total amount raised. Although another five countries indicated that they expect to make contributions at a later date, and total contributions are expected to reach \$170 million, the donations fall far short of the estimated \$225 million needed to provide humanitarian assistance to millions of refugees in Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, the West Bank and Gaza for 1985. UNRWA's projects are financed completely from voluntary contributions. UNRWA Commissioner-General Olof Rydbeck told the conference that the prospects for the agency were "grim." Not only will contributions not meet the needs, but the donations are showing an alarming declining trend. In addition to the United States, other large contributors were the European Community (\$14.39 million), Norway (\$6.78 million), Sweden (\$6.32 million), Switzerland (\$3.6 million), West Germany (\$3.2 million) and Italy (\$1.39 million).

### Bourguiba released from hospital

**TUNIS (R)** — Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba left hospital Thursday after 17 days of treatment for heart troubles, a statement from the presidency said. Mr. Bourguiba, 81, went into hospital following several mild attacks of "coronary insufficiency" soon after a trip to Algeria where he attended the 30th anniversary celebrations on Nov. 1 of the start of Algeria's armed struggle against French rule. The president has now returned to his official Carthage Palace residence in Tunis.

### U.N. chief recommends UNDOF renewal

**NEW YORK (USIA)** — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has recommended to the U.N. Security Council that the U.N. Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights be extended for another six months. The mandate of the 1,300-man force will expire on Nov. 30. In a Nov. 16 report, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, "the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached."

## GCC foreign ministers discuss combined military defence strategy

**KUWAIT (Agencies)** — Foreign Ministers of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) held a secret session here Wednesday, devoted mainly to collective military defence arrangements and means of fending off the hazards of the Iran-Iraq war.

The ministers were paving the way for the fifth GCC summit, scheduled for Nov. 27 here in Kuwait.

Conference sources said the ministers were "touching up" a joint defence strategy laid down by the GCC defence ministers during their meeting in Abha, Saudi Arabia, last September.

The proposed strategy calls for a joint command, unified air defence and naval patrol systems and outlines coordinated policies on arms purchases and ground troop deployments by the member countries.

Born in May 1981, the GCC groups Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Qatar and Oman in a regional economic integration and collective defence pact.

It was prompted mainly by conditions of disunity among the

Arab League member states, the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the advent of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini in revolutionary Iran.

The GCC countries, which double as members of the Arab League, have felt the Soviet menace creeping closer to their doorsteps with the invasion of Afghanistan. The Iranian Islamic regime also has been viewed as a threat, with Khomeini often threatening to export his revolutionary ideals to the GCC countries.

The outbreak of the Iran-Iraq war in 1980 and the subsequent threat to oil tanker navigation through Gulf sea lanes impelled the GCC countries to substantially increase their arms purchases and devise collective defence blueprints.

The foreign ministers have underscored the objective of the military strategy as "strictly defensive and not in any way aimed against any power in particular."

Arab diplomatic sources said that one option being deliberated by the foreign ministers was to def-

ine a shipping corridor close to the Gulf western coastline, where joint GCC navy units would conduct regular patrol missions.

The corridor, they said, would be protected by coast guns and regular reconnaissance flights by the air forces of the GCC states.

The so-called tanker war, an offshoot of the 50-month-old Iran-Iraq conflict, has so far crippled more than 50 Arab and foreign oil tankers and bulk tankers.

Most of these shipping victims were struck within a 50-mile radius declared an "exclusion zone" by Iraq near Iran's Kharg Island oil terminal. The aim, according to official Iraqi statements, was to stifle Iranian economy by blocking its oil exports.

A senior Gulf official said Thursday the Arab Gulf states had initiated contacts to see if fresh efforts were worthwhile to try negotiate an end to the war between Iran and Iraq.

Ibrahim Al Sobhi, assistant secretary-general for political affairs in the GCC, said a GCC summit here next week would assess the result of these contacts.

(P.O.) and has condemned Israel's continued occupation of South Lebanon.

But there have been persistent reports abroad over the past few years of a budding military relationship between Israel and China. These have been consistently rejected by Peking as baseless.

## 'Reagan's peace initiative still viable'

**NEW YORK (USIA)** — U.S. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick says the Reagan administration has stated its intention to push forward with the president's Middle East initiative of September 1982, and the president remains committed to that framework and its goals.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick told a large audience Nov. 21 at a forum sponsored by the New York Post newspaper that the administration "believes this is the most effective next step after Camp David."

## Abba Eban denies asking U.S. to pressure Israel

**TEL AVIV (R)** — Former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban denied Friday having told an American magazine that the United States should press Israel harder to seek peace with Arab countries.

Mr. Eban, a member of Prime Minister Shimon Peres' Labour Party and chairman of the Parliamentary Defence and Foreign Affairs Committee, told Reuters he had been misquoted by Parade.

According to Parade, Mr. Eban said: "The United States is going to have to push us a bit more to finish this peace process."

Mr. Eban said he had used the word "help," not "push." He said the interview had been given a month ago and its theme was what Israel hoped from the U.S. ele-

## U.S., Israel conclude Washington talks

**WASHINGTON (USIA)** — The United States and Israel have concluded two parallel sets of talks that were held in Washington Nov. 19 and 20, State Department Spokesman Alan Romberg said.

He described the talks as "part of an on-going series of discussions."

The first was a preparatory meeting of the U.S.-Israeli Joint Economic Development Group. Mr. Romberg said, "the discussions were a useful exchange of ideas and have set the stage for a plenary session of this group, which is known as the JEDG, which would be held in December in Washington."

Earlier, State Department off-

icials explained that the JEDG is a consultative mechanism which the U.S. and Israeli governments agreed to establish during Israeli Prime Minister Mr. Peres' visit in October. It includes representatives from various U.S. government agencies, such as the State Department, the Treasury Department, the Office of Management and Budget and the Agency for International Development.

The purpose of the JEDG is to consult on U.S.-Israeli economic relations, the Israeli economic situation, Israeli growth and development programmes and the role of U.S. assistance in support

of Israeli economic objectives.

In the second meeting, the Joint Security Assistance Planning Group reviewed Israel's defence procurement requirements and financial arrangements in the context of Israel's overall security needs.

"They have been productive discussions and they also will be continued in December," Mr. Romberg said.

Later, the State Department said that negotiations on a U.S.-Israeli free trade agreement "are in their final phase and we are confident that an agreement will be reached in the near future."

## TV & RADIO

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06:00 Morning News  
06:30 Children's Programme  
07:00 English Teaching  
07:30 First Aid  
08:00 Cartoons  
08:30 Children's Programme  
09:00 Local Programme  
09:30 News Programme  
10:00 News in Arabic  
10:30 Arabic Series  
11:00 Programme Review  
11:30 Arabic Film  
12:00 News in Arabic  
12:30 Film Core

### FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme  
19:00 News in French  
19:30 Comedy Series  
20:00 Saturday Variety Show  
21:00 News in English  
22:00 Feature Film

### RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM  
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07:00 Light Music  
07:30 Newsweek  
08:00 Morning Show  
08:30 News Summary  
09:00 Morning Show  
10:00 News Summary  
10:30 Pop Session  
11:00 News Summary  
11:30 Pop Session  
12:00 News Summary  
12:30 Pop Session  
13:00 News Summary  
13:30 Pop Session  
14:00 News Bulletin  
14:30 Jordan Weekly  
15:00 Music  
15:30 News Summary  
16:00 News Summary  
16:30 Old Favourites  
17:00 Special Feature  
17:30 Music  
18:00 News Summary  
18:30 Top Twenty  
19:00 News  
19:30 Date with a Star  
20:00 Good Old Days  
20:30 News Summary  
21:00 Country Music  
21:30 News Summary  
22:00 Play of the Week  
22:30 News Summary  
23:00 Classical Concert  
24:00 News Headlines

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20:00 World News 20:30 News  
21:00 World News 21:30 News  
22:00 World News 22:30 News  
23:00 World News 23:30 News  
24:00 World News 24:30 News

### VOICe OF AMERICA

1200 MW, 7200, 9585, 11740 11925  
& 12310 KHz

06:00 VOA Morning News, Informal  
Presentation of Popular Music with  
Feature Reports, Interviews, Answers to  
Listeners' Questions, Science Digest,  
Sports News at 30 minutes past the hour.  
17:00 News 17:10 This Week 17:30 Press  
Conference USA 18:00 News 18:10  
American viewpoints 18:30 Special  
English News Features 19:00 News  
19:10 Weekend 20:00 News 20:10  
Close-up 20:30 Special English News  
and Features 21:00 News 21:10  
America Viewpoints 21:30 Press  
Conference USA 22:00 News and Editorial  
22:15 Minute USA (Hazz) 23:00 Weekend  
Survey of World News, Correspondent's  
Reports, Music, Cultural  
events and Features

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### TODAY'S EVENTS

#### EXHIBITIONS

\* An exhibition of Kermi Nimri and  
Aziz Amoun, at Jordan National Gallery  
(from Nov. 19 - 29)

\* An exhibition of ceramics and historical  
illustrations at Yarmouk University  
until Nov. 25.

\* Plastic Art Exhibition, Irbid, organized  
by Irbid Youth Centre in cooperation  
with Department of Culture and Arts  
(from 20-27 November)

\* A children play "A city without L-  
ove", adapted by Foad Al Shomali at  
the Royal Cultural Centre (until Nov. 28)

\* Italian film week at 8:00 p.m. at the  
Royal Cultural Centre until Nov. 28.

\* A musical concert at 8:00 p.m. at the  
French Cultural Centre.

### CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre - Tel. 6610267

American Centre - 44371

American Centre Library - 41520

British Council - 36147-8

French Cultural Centre - 41993

Goethe Institute - 44203

Soviet Cultural Centre - 24049

Spanish Cultural Centre - 39777

Turkish Cultural Centre - 665195

Hayat Arts Centre - 667181

Hussein Youth City - 41793

Y.W.M.C.A. - 664251

Amman Municipal Library - 36111

University of Jordan Library - 843555

### MUSEUMS

Fallujah Museum: Jewelry and costumes  
over 100 years old. Also mosaics  
from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th  
centuries). The Roman Theatre,  
Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5  
p.m. Free entry. Tel. 51760.

Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an  
excellent collection of the antiquities of  
Jordan. Jabbal Al Qal'a (Cliffed Hill).  
Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
(Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m.  
- 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection  
of paintings, ceramics, and scul-

### CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic)  
Jabal Amman, Tel. 24590.

Church of the Assumption (Roman  
Catholic) Jabal Luwbeh, 37440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)  
Jabal Hussein, 661757.

Church of the Annunciation (Greek  
Orthodox) Abjiba, 23541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Red-  
cemer) Jabal Amman, 41559.

Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh,  
771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh,  
775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox)  
Ashrafieh, 771751.

Amman International Church (Inter-  
denominational): meets at Southern  
Baptist School in Shmeisil, 816534.

### PRAYER TIMES

06:47 Fajr

06:12 Sunrise

11:23 Dhuhr

14:14 Asr

16:32 Maghreb

17:38 Isha

## FOR THE TRAVELLER

### AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia In-  
formation department at the Queen Alia  
International Airport, Tel. (08) 53259,  
53070, 53082, 53171, where it should  
always be verified.

### ARRIVALS

06:50 Cairo (MS)

07:30 Baghdad (IA)

08:30 Dubai, Karachi (RJ)

09:45 Cairo (RJ)

09:45 Jeddah (RJ)

09:45 Kuwait (RJ)

09:55 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

09:55 Doha (RJ)

10:10 Larnaca, Damascus (RJ)

10:20 Beirut (RJ)

10:45 Riyadh (RJ)

10:45 Singapore, Abu Dhabi (RJ)

12:00 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat  
(GF)

14:40 Kuwait (KU)

16:50 Baghdad (IA)

17:30 Athens (RJ)

17:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)

18:30 Paris, Damascus (AF)

18:30 Cairo (RJ)

19:45 Tripoli (RJ)

20:40 Rome, Damascus (AZ)

21:30 Bahrain (GF)

21:30 Cairo (RJ)

21:30 Baghdad (RJ)

01:10 Jeddah (RJ)

01:30 Bucharest, Larnaca (RO)

### MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba  
port:

— Boleslaw Krzywousty

— Captain Matsev

— Jeddah Crown

— Nafco Nadilo

— Kora Timur

— Midhat

— Arabella

— Al Khamsa

— Adria Star

— Zirkuk

— Jeddah Crown

— Kora Timur

— Khamsa

Amin Kavar and Sons Company, Tel.  
22324 (six lines) at your service.

### MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jls

Belgian franc 66.3/ 66.7

Dutch guilder 118.5/ 119.2

Egyptian pound 305.3/ 307.6

French franc 43.5/ 43.8

Irish dinar 333.6/ 338.6

Italian lire (for 100) 21.5/ 21.7



# The PNC

## Political activists send Hussein cable of support

AMMAN (J.T.) — A number of Jordanian figures Friday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein in which they expressed their full support for King Hussein's address before the PNC opening session on Thursday. In the cable they also renewed their confidence in and loyalty to King Hussein and pledged to continue the march under his wise leadership.

In the cable they said that the King's address was a true and courageous expression of the feelings and national aspirations of the Jordanian and Palestinian peoples.

Signatories of the cable were Dr. Jamal Al Sha'ir, Mr. Ibrahim Attour, Mr. Mazen Al Hadid, Wahib Abdo Al Sha'ir, Mohammad Raja Al Masoud, Randa Munir Al Wir, Anwar Mohammad Al Hadid, Dr. Faisal Kana'an, Na'ila Al Rashidan, Mr. Ja'afar Touqan, Dr. Ahmad Dahbour, Dr. Carlos Di'nis, Dr. Ghazi Jamal Al Qasem, Dr. Kamel Abdellat, Dr. Odeh Hafeh, Mr. Talal Al Omari, Mrs. Laila Al Sayegh Al Raja and Dr. Wajih Barakat.

Earlier on Wednesday 30 Jordanian figures representing the democratic coalition in Jordan issued a statement in which they appealed to all conferees at the PNC to live up to the challenges facing the Palestinian question. The statement also urged all PNC members to try their utmost to reach decisions conforming with the aspirations and hopes pinned on the PNC session.

The issues to be discussed at the PNC concern the Palestinians themselves while any decisions which the council might take are of special importance to all Arabs who share the same destiny. Jordan's interest in the PNC is not attributable to hosting the PNC in Amman, it is attributable to the joint organic relation between the

Palestinians and Jordanians', the statement said.

The signatories also called on all PNC members to maintain the unity of the PLO and its independent decisions, as an institution representing the Palestinian people in their struggle for liberating their land, through respecting the PLO charter, PLO decisions, regulations, councils and legitimate leadership and by applying democracy when taking decisions.

The signatories of the statement also called for coordinated efforts within the framework of a national strategy in any political move, in view of the joint destiny the two peoples (Jordanians and Palestinians) share and due to the close relations linking them to each other.

Signatories further called for concerted Arab efforts to support the steadfastness of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories to enable them to continue their struggle against the Israeli occupation forces and aims.

The statement was signed by Dr. Jamal Al Sha'ir, Dr. Abdul Salam Qamhawi, Mrs. Na'ila Al Rashidan, Dr. Odeh Hafeh, Mr. Talal Al Omari, Mr. Mohammad Fadel Al Taher, Mr. Abdul Wahab Fayez Ismail, Dr. Bassam Abbas, Mr. Mazen Al Hadid, Mr. Bassam Ma'aya'h, Dr. Ghazi Jamal Al Qasem, Dr. Faisal Kana'an, Mr. Wahib Abdo Al Sha'ir, Dr. Wajih Barakat, Mr. Hani Hamdullah Al Dabbas, Mr. Salim Abu Al Sha'ar, Mrs. Laila Sayegh Al Raja, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Dabbas, Dr. Carlos Di'nis, Mr. Ibrahim Attour, Mr. Anwar Mohammad Al Hadid, Dr. Kamel Al Abdellat, Mr. Ja'afar Toukan, Mr. Mohammad Al Raja Al Masoud, Mr. Abdul Karim Al Ghussein, Dr. Ahmad Dahbour, Mr. Hisham Khreizat, Dr. In'am Matar and Mrs. Josephine Hattar.



JUST WATCHING: Observers at the 17th session of the Palestine National Council (PNC) sit above a banner saying "No to Tutelage" (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## Za'noun defends PNC legitimacy

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — First Deputy Speaker of the Palestine National Council (PNC) Salim Al Za'noun Friday defended the PNC quorum. During a press conference at the Amman Sports City, he said that the quorum for the PNC session had been obtained without deleting or dropping any names of PNC members. The new members, he added, represent the popular bodies, various trade unions and other councils which replace some members for special reasons and he said that the PNC has official letters to that effect.

Mr. Za'noun, who was apparently replying to allegations by PNC Speaker Khaled Fahoum who refused to attend the PNC session that the quorum was not present for the PNC session,

added that this is not the first time such changes have taken place, emphasising that such changes do not violate the council's regulations.

Concerning the quota of all parties participating in the PNC, Mr. Za'noun said that the number of popular bodies and trade unions representatives, in addition to the independent members, is 232 while the other 152 members represent the Palestinian resistance groups.

Regarding the membership of the occupied territories representatives, Mr. Za'noun said: "For reasons relating to the occupation circumstances, we have adopted a prior decision not to name such members. However, we will name Mohammad Mihem and Fahd Jawasmi, the deported mayors of Halhoul and Hebron

respectively as new PNC members."

He added that a number of the council's members who were willing to participate in the meetings were exposed to Syrian pressures and threats, ranging from arrest to withdrawal of travel documents issued to them by the Syrian authorities, while some others were able to prove their true belonging to the Palestine identity and took part in meeting.

On the subject of King Hussein's initiative presented to the council on Thursday, Mr. Za'noun said that this falls under the prerogative of the PLO Executive Committee which will first discuss it and then submit the proposal to the council or to the political committee, where it will then go through the proper channels to the PLO decision making bodies.

## How the quorum was obtained

By P.V. Vivekanand  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) relied on union and military representatives and independent members of the Palestine National Council (PNC) to secure a quorum for the 17th session of the council which opened here Thursday with some key factions of the PLO staying away.

A televised roll call of the first working session of the PNC Thursday night, after the formal opening of the council meeting by His Majesty King Hussein, showed that 257 members of the PNC were present — more than the two-third quorum required for a meeting of the highest decision-making body of the Palestinians.

The 344-member council's roll-call, which was held on the basis that it has only 374 active members — six are dead and four in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and South Lebanon and unable to attend, found the attendance at the session as 257 members made up as follows:

Fateh — 36; the Supreme Military Council — 29; the Palestine Liberation Front 4; The Arab Liberation Front — 9; Union representing labourers — 16; teachers — 11; doctors — 9; writers

— 6; lawyers — 7; students — 12; women — 15; engineers — 5; youth and sports federations — 3; the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) — 1 (Abia Taha); Saiga — 1 (Mahmoud Tayem); and independents — 93.

Fateh, the main force behind the convening of the PNC in Amman, had in fact replaced some of the representatives of the professional unions and associations as well as the military council. The replacement was, however, legal according to PNC statute provisions covering the issue. Fateh officials and other council sources said.

In effect, all those PNC representatives in the professional unions and associations and the military council who did not indicate their readiness to attend the session were replaced by those who were willing to attend the PNC session held in Amman.

Some key members of the factions which officially boycotted the PNC meeting included Mr. Tayem and Ms. Taha. In addition to Mahmoud Dughman of Saiga and Mohammad Abu Jaber of the PFLP-GC who had raised their voice against the Syrian-backed rebellion within the ranks of the PLO.

## How journalists were left out in the cold

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Bitter complaints and lamentations of disappointment were heard Thursday amongst 200 journalists who were stranded in the parking lot outside the Palace of Culture where the 17th session of the PNC was being opened.

The journalists, who arrived in Amman from all over the world to cover the event, were not allowed into the auditorium which was apparently packed with approximately 4,000 people including PNC members, Arab and foreign delegations and observers from more than 40 countries.

The organisers of the session started by allowing the successive delegations into the auditorium at around 3:30 p.m., while the journalists were waiting in the sport city parking lot. They then allowed female journalists in and few minutes later another 30 journalists.

The more than 200 frustrated journalists left outside were furious with disbelief after they discovered, through their portable radios, that the session had started. They had been standing in the parking lot for several hours in cold weather. They were asked to group at the Jerusalem Hotel at 12 noon, before being carried by buses to the Sports City.

While the newsmen were stranded in the parking lot waiting for an explanation of what was happening, the King's press secretary came out of the session to tell the angry journalists that the organisation in the auditorium had not been conducted by the Royal Court. Apparently, the organising was done by the PLO press centre.

When PLO Press Secretary Ahmad Abdul Rahim saw journalists standing outside he asked: "What are you doing here?" The answer was: "You tell us what are

we doing here?" After tiring of standing in the cold with their cameras and equipment, the journalists and photographers retreated to the Sports City cafeteria where they watched the session broadcast on television.

Among the journalists left outside were correspondents of the Palestinian News Agency Wafa and members of the Palestinian information centre. Correspondents of regional, Arab and international news agencies, photographers and reporters of leading newspapers and international publications were also left outside. Photographers were only allowed in for five minutes during the session.

The journalists who succeeded in entering the auditorium were not allowed to take their tape recorders in with them "for security reasons" of course while females who attended the session had to leave their hand bags piled up outside, for the same reason.

One newspaper reporter, who asked not to be identified, said: "If we knew we would not be admitted, we would have remained in our hotels and watched the session on television."



The auditorium for the opening session of the PNC meeting; a scene which approximately 250 journalists were not able to see (Petra photo)

## Session settles down to detailed work

# World leaders, delegates express support for PNC

By Salameh B. Ne'matt  
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Palestinian parliament-in-exile settled down to detailed work Friday after overcoming a boycott by pro-Syrian Palestinian factions and securing the required quorum (See story on this page). Over the next five days the council will hear various reports, including one by the head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO's) political department Farouk Kaddoumi and elect new PLO executive committee members.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat whom Syria and dissidents want to oust, told the council Thursday during his speech that the council alone had the right to remove him.

At a two-hour morning session on Friday and later in the afternoon, the council heard messages of support from delegates representing their countries as observers.

A spokesman for the opposition Syrian National Democratic Party taking part in the session told the delegates that the convening of the 17th session of the PNC in Amman came at a time "when the Palestinian cause is in a need to continue the struggle following a series of blows and conspiracies aimed at paralysing its movement."

Holding it here is a "natural response to those who stood against the will of the Palestinian people," the spokesman said adding that Syrian forces in Lebanon "killed more Palestinians than Israel did and inflicted damage on the Palestinian cause more than its other enemies."

Member of the Algerian National Liberation Front Mr. Jalloul Mala'ika dismissed in his message of support to the conference any news that Algeria has any reservations on holding the PNC session in Amman.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency Petra, Mr. Mala'ika who is deputy speaker of the Algerian National Council said the presence of the Algerian delegation in Amman is the best proof.

He praised Jordan for holding the PNC and hailed the legitimate Palestinian leadership and wished it success in its meetings.

A Saudi Arabian delegation headed by the kingdom's amb-

assador to Jordan Sheikh Ibrahim Sultan attended the opening session of the PNC.

The Saudi Press Agency (SPA) on Thursday quoted reliable sources as saying that Saudi Arabia hoped the meeting would help the PLO unite in the struggle to win Palestinian rights and liberate Israeli-occupied Palestinian territory.

The sources reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the agency said.

In a message to PLO Chairman Arafat, Chinese Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang praised the Palestinians for their struggle against the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and for withstanding fighting there during the past two years.

The Chinese premier said the PLO was "the Palestinian's only legitimate representative" and that it was important for the Palestinians and other Arab people to "close ranks against their common enemy."

"It is our sincere hope that, burying the hatchet, they would unite in this time of need and advance shoulder to shoulder towards their lofty national goal," the message said.

Head of the Yugoslav delegation to the council delivered a speech in which he reaffirmed his country's full support to the legitimate leadership of the PLO and Yugoslavia's support of the Palestinian legitimate rights.

In a message of support from Delhi, Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said the PNC session "meets at a crucial moment in the history of the Palestinian people."

"I am confident that as a result of the deliberations of this conference, the Palestinian people

will come out more united, with their determination to pursue their struggle," the Indian premier said.

He said India has consistently supported the legitimate aspirations of the Palestinian people including their right to self-determination and a national homeland. Addressing Chairman Arafat, Mr. Gandhi said the PLO has been waging "an unceasing struggle for the realisation of its cherished objectives."

"I take this opportunity to reiterate the continuing commitment of India and of the entire Non-Aligned Movement to your just cause," the Indian premier concluded.

Head of the Moroccan delegation to the session Mr. Ahmad Ibn Suda read a message to the conference from King Hassan of Morocco in which he said that the legitimacy of Palestinian rights including the right to have their own independent state "imposes itself on everybody."

King Hassan said that those who ignore the Palestinian rights blinded by their emotions and intransigence "do not know that their stand exposes the whole area to danger and imbalances the world stability."

He called on the session to consider all its decisions before hand so as to strengthen the organisation and support its legitimacy and the main principle of representing the Palestinian people.

Head of the Tunisian Constitutional Socialist Party Mr. Hady Bakkouch in his speech said that Tunis did not interfere in the Palestinian independent decision and that it will continue to reject any interference in internal Palestinian affairs.

Mr. Bakkouch called on PNC members to unite their ranks and heal the rift within the organisation. He said that his country stands side by side with its Palestinian brethren and expressed full support to whatever the council will decide.

Also speaking during the evening session was Dr. Mahmoud Al Mursi, the United Nations representative to the PNC session, who concentrated on the formula drawn up at Geneva peace conference.

(Continued on page 5)

## Opening speeches emphasise urgency of resolving key Palestinian issues

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — Arab League Secretary General Chadi Klibi addressed the PNC opening session Thursday with an appeal to all Palestinians to join their ranks and to foil Israeli plans directed against the whole Arab nation. Mr. Klibi said that the tragedy of the Palestinians is a tragedy for all Arabs and said that all Arab states should support the just struggle of the Palestinian people for freedom.

The inter-Palestinian differences, he said, had been a great blessing for the Israeli enemy which hopes to destroy the struggle of the Palestinian people and added that this enemy is now working relentlessly to end the PLO's military and political role.

Mr. Klibi spoke about the importance of the role of Syria in the common Arab efforts to confront the Israeli aggression on the Arab nation and said that cohesion between Syria and the PLO is a national responsibility which rests on both sides. "This cohesion must be of strategic nature, between Syria, Palestine and all Arab countries in order to regain all Arab lands from Israel and for establishing an independent Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital," Mr. Klibi added.

Mr. Klibi also called for the return of Egypt to the Arab fold. He said that Israel's aim are to isolate Egypt, to break up the Palestinian people and to dominate the Arab nation. He said Egypt is an essential force for the Arabs if they want to regain their rights.

During a press conference he held Friday, Salim Za'noun, the PNC deputy speaker, apologised to journalists for Thursday's incident and said that the number of those attending was much more than expected, and that the problem could not have been helped. PLO officials claim Mr. Khalil Wazir personally intervened to let the journalists into the hall, but that his efforts came either too late or were unsuccessful.

Za'noun's address

Deputy speaker of the Palestine National Council Salim Al Za'noun delivered the opening address at the meeting Thursday by expressing the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) appreciation and gratitude to Jordan and His Majesty King Hussein for hosting the council meeting in Amman, and by sending greetings to the Arab people under Israeli occupation and to those members who failed to attend the meeting in view of 'Israeli or Syrian measures'.

Mr. Za'noun named the PNC's 17th session as the "PNC's Martyrs' Session" and appealed to those who can still attend, to come

to Amman to take part in the meeting.

In his address, Mr. Za'noun spoke of the Syrian and Libyan measures aimed at preventing the council from convening, by threatening council members "with serious action" against them if they did.

Following are excerpts from Mr. Za'noun's address: "Following the Sabra and Shatila massacres, the PNC held its 16th session in Algiers where we considered and endorsed the Fez Arab summit resolutions as a minimum for our political plan of action which should go hand in hand with our military action. We also reaffirmed the unique and special relationship binding the Palestinian and Jordanian people, and said that this relationship should in the future be based on a confederal basis. Arab countries supported our decisions, but later some of them turned against us."

"Following the departure of the Palestinians from Beirut, certain Arab states began to pave the way for ending the PLO. Syria announced that the Palestinians have failed to resolve their problem and it is left for the Arab countries to do so. Syria has said that Palestine forms part of southern Syria. We do not accept that unless the Syrian armed forces take part in liberating Palestine and we refuse to act as a card in the hands of Syria to offer compromises. We condemn certain Palestinian groups which raised arms against others to serve Syria's purposes. The enemies of the Palestinian people have distorted our people's struggle and presented the world with a gloomy image about the Palestinians and negative elements that overshadow our real strife and the struggle for liberation and freedom. The Syrians have forced certain groups under their influence to raise arms against PLO leader Yasser Arafat and to shell Baddawi, Al Bared and other refugee camps in Tripoli, trying to achieve what Israel had failed to do with its invasion."

"Jordan and Palestine have come together for the PNC meeting hoping to offer their endeavours to rescue our people from their sufferings and march together for freedom. We can never forget King Hussein's efforts at the head of the seven-member committee, formed by the Fez

Summit, which toured world capitals explaining the Palestinian problem. We also are aware of the Israeli enemy's plans aiming at implementing the Camp David agreement by trying to impose new proposals brought to the region by Murphy.

Zionist aims

"We can see that Israel is trying to carry out a plan of creating mini sectarian states and trying to establish an alternative Palestinian state in Jordan, which Sharon threatens to occupy. This Zionist enemy feels threatened by the Iraqi armed forces which have been increasing their strength, and therefore is conspiring with the United States, to prolong the Iran-Iraq war for as long as possible. "The PNC members will continue to work towards serving the aspirations and to fulfil the objectives of the Palestinian revolution."

"We appreciate the different Arab and friendly countries which sent delegates to attend the PNC meeting in Amman and we greet those who defied all the storms raised over the past few days and came here with determination to make their council meeting a success," said Mr. Za'noun.

OIC support

A representative of the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) standing in for Al Habib Al Chatti, the OIC secretary general, also made a speech at the opening session. He said that the first Islamic summit conference called on all Islamic nations to unite ranks and to liberate the holy places in Palestine. Therefore, the Palestine issue is not a problem for the Palestinians alone but rather for all Islamic nations and Arab countries, he said.

Defending the Islamic holy places, he added, is the responsibility of all Muslim people. The envoy paid tribute to the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation and the PLO forces which have been exposed to repeated Israeli aggressions. The OIC, he said, will continue to support this struggle and to offer the PLO all facilities to help it achieve the aspirations of the Palestinian people.

(Continued on page 5)



# King calls for joint Jordanian-Palestinian initiative

Opening the 17th Palestine National Council (PNC) session, His Majesty King Hussein stressed the significance of joint Jordanian-Palestinian effort and called for a joint initiative for promoting the Palestinian cause in the world arena and seeking a just and durable settlement for the Middle East conflict. Following is the full text of the King's speech.

In the Name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate

My Brethren, Members of the Palestine National Council, Friends and Observers, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I greet you with joy and affection. In the name of Jordan, I welcome you on Jordanian soil. So close to Palestine, I send my hearty salutations to its people, and through you, the representatives of the Palestinian people, I greet every Palestinian. I extend to you a warm welcome in Amman, among the people of Amman — rather your people, your clan, your brothers, your kith and kin. I welcome you on the twin soil of Jordan, the beacon of hope and the fortress of steadfastness.

My Brethren, Members of the Palestine National Council,

You meet today even though some of your brethren from the occupied — and other — territories have not been able to join you. Having defeated the designs of guardianship over your affairs, you come together in this your Seventeenth Session, thus demonstrating the strength of your determination, the clarity of your purpose and the depth of your national unity. In so doing, you have affirmed your legitimate representation of your people, who have renewed their confidence in you, having proved to the world at large your ability to preserve the independence of the Palestinian decision and demonstrated the competence of your institutions as well as the serious purpose of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The convening of your Council in Amman represents a unity of will between you and your people both within and outside the occupied homeland. Similarly, this event stands for a coalescence of effort and determination by two brotherly peoples who are fused together in confrontation of one and the same challenge, of one and the same source of danger. It is a natural return to the normal state of affairs, to a condition that ought to continue without interruption. The Jordanian people, before all others, and to a greater degree than others, have shared with the Palestinian people their pain, their suffering and their sacrifice, just as they have shared their will, their hope and their determination to regain their legitimate national rights on the land of Palestine. Before all others and to a greater degree than others, Jordan and my family stood by the people of Palestine in facing up to the Zionist threat at its inception as well as at the height of its expansionist drive. We do not say this to score a point, to engage in artful design or to seek gratitude. We say it to emphasize an objective reality crystallized through an organic partnership in facing a common danger.

Sharif Hussein gave up his throne in defence of the Arab character of Palestine, refusing to sign a treaty with Britain unless it stipulated the annulment of the Balfour Declaration. King Abdullah paid with his life for attempting in all sincerity to rescue the greater part of Palestine, having applied his outstanding foresight to his understanding of the historic juncture of our nation's progress and to the magnitude of the international conspiracy against Palestine. Having called for an acceptance of the Partition Resolution of 1947, he waged war when war became inevitable, with the result that Jordan, despite political constraints and limited resources, was able to preserve the larger part of what remained of Palestine. Despite the merger of 1950, "on a basis of parliamentary constitutional rule and equality of rights and obligations among the citizens," the unity declaration emphasized "that all Arab rights in Palestine be protected and that those rights be defended by all legitimate means to the fullest extent, without prejudice to the final settlement of its just cause."

In conformity with the declaration of unity, we supported the establishment of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and, on 28th May 1964, I personally opened the First Session of the Palestine National Council in Jerusalem. In that meeting, I said to your brethren the representatives of the Palestinian people: "Your Conference is a historic event, unique in the annals of the tragedy, since it brings together the heroic people of Palestine for the first time since their dispersal to sundry corners of the globe."

It is thus clear that as a Hashemite family and as a country we never acted with the intention of

curtailing the Palestinian identity or Palestinian aspirations or of exercising control over Palestine and its people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the wake of Israel's occupation of the West Bank in 1967, our efforts in Jordan, together with those of our brethren in Egypt, were geared in two parallel directions. The first was to rebuild our armed forces destroyed by the war, and the second was to pursue political action aimed at restoring the land occupied by force. Together with Egypt, we participated in securing Security Council Resolution 242, which then formed the basis of our political efforts. The late President Nasser urged me in our first meeting after the June war to do all in my power to regain the occupied territories. I needed no urging in this regard, "as I never stood in want of courage, nor would I, for the sake of Jerusalem and Palestine." I did all I could, spared no effort and left no stone unturned.

During that period, however, the Palestine Liberation Organization emerged as an active participant on the Palestinian scene. With the expansion of its role there was a growing natural desire among the ranks of the Palestinians to assert their national identity on their native soil. Attempts to regain the occupied territories were clouded by Palestinian doubts that they could establish a national authority in Palestine in the event of Jordan regaining the West Bank. There grew a clear Palestinian desire to relieve Jordan of that responsibility, a desire strengthened by the misconception that the restoration of the occupied lands was imminent. That desire was further nurtured by those who felt that the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship would tie all the Arabs to the cause of Palestine and impose an obligation to come to its rescue. It was also nurtured by those who preferred to leave the primary and direct responsibility with the people of Palestine, with the consequence that the other Arabs would be relegated to second place. We strongly resisted this development and considered it to be an abandonment of a sacred duty at a critical moment in time. An attitude such as this would have been conceivable before the Arab armies entered Palestine in 1948. But for it to develop after the entire territory of Palestine had fallen into Israeli hands could only be construed as a desertion of the people of Palestine. As a result, and owing to lack of clarity in perception, a covert state of incipient conflict between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization grew into a physical clash and led to regrettable events. We were thus faced with a dilemma in Jordan. To give in to this line of thinking would only serve to strengthen the enemy, which sought every excuse, no matter how flimsy, to mislead world public opinion. It would, by the same token, lend strength to the enemy's insidious call for annexation of the occupied territories. On the other hand, for us to persist in the political course set in motion after the 1967 war, without proper regard for the concerns of our Palestinian brethren, would enhance their suspicions of our intentions.

To break out of this dilemma, we proposed in 1972 — a formula that would regulate the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship in the post-liberation period. The formula was intended to strike a balance between our national obligation to persist in an international search for the restoration of the West Bank on the basis of Resolution 242 and the reassurance of our Palestinian brethren that Jordan recognized their national identity and did not covet their land. We formulated three options for the two peoples, Jordanian and Palestinian, to vote upon under a recognized democratic procedure in the event the territories were regained. The first option was a return to the relationship prevailing before the occupation. The second was a balanced federal relationship between Jordan and Palestine. And the third was the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

Our suggestions, however, did not meet with approval at the time. Then came the October War, which was a surprise to us as far as planning and timing were concerned. Given this circumstance, we joined the war on Syrian territory while safeguarding our positions along the longest line of confrontation to ensure that the enemy would not use it for further aggression against the Arab nation. Resolution 338 was then adopted, emphasizing the provisions of 242. The sister state of Syria joined the Jordanian-Egyptian political efforts which culminated in the Geneva Conference in December 1973. The United States

began to replace the United Nations as a third party to the peace process, thus gradually excluding Jordan from that process, led by former American Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. It soon became clear that the peace efforts were aimed at the Syrians and the Egyptians, to the exclusion of the Palestinians. Concomitantly, the feeling grew among our Arab and Palestinian brethren that the replacement of Jordan by the Palestine Liberation Organization with regard to the West Bank would simplify things, especially in the light of the Israeli assertion that Jordan had no claim to the West Bank, on the pretext that it was an occupying power. Then in 1974 at Rabat, we responded positively to Arab feeling and joined in a unanimous resolution calling on the Arabs "to regain the national rights of the Palestinian people as determined by the Palestine Liberation Organization, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people." With that, the political burden was shifted from Jordan to the Palestine Liberation Organization. No sooner had this happened than Israel, who before Rabat had considered Jordan an occupying power, announced its refusal to talk to the PLO and demanded that it talk to Jordan instead, although it knew very well that we were fully committed to the Rabat resolution. The threads of the conspiracy began to unravel. After freezing Jordan's role, the time had come to freeze the role of the PLO. This was confirmed by the assurances given to Israel by the former American Secretary of State only a few months after Rabat to the effect that the United States would not talk to the PLO, to satisfy one of Israel's conditions for signing the Second Disengagement Agreement with Egypt.



In all of this, Israel's intention was to generate an atmosphere of confusion and to paralyse any political activity relating to the Palestinian dimension of the Middle East crisis. Israel wanted to gain time that would enable it to accelerate the pace of change of the status quo in the occupied Palestinian territories, with Arab Jerusalem heading the list.

The intent was thus clear; to put the Rabat resolution to work in Israel's favour through the assertion that Jordan had conceded its right to claim the West Bank while the PLO was not acceptable as a spokesman for the Palestinians. Recognising both the danger and ramifications of this game, we in Jordan seized every opportunity in every forum to declare our adherence to the Rabat resolution as well as to the legal capacity of the PLO to speak for the Palestinians as their sole representative. At the same time, we were careful to emphasize Security Council Resolution 242 since it was the only unanimous resolution by the world's most exalted international body to describe the Israeli presence in the Arab territories as "occupation" and call for its termination as a means of arriving at a just solution.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Despite efforts by Israel and its supporters to freeze its political role, the PLO achieved tangible progress in the international arena. It obtained an observer's seat at the United Nations, received recognition from most countries of the world, began to participate responsibly in the work of international and regional organizations and assumed an eminent standing as a national liberation movement representing a people under foreign occupation. But with the increasing international prominence of the PLO came a heightened pattern of intrigue against it. When Israel realized the futility of confronting the PLO politically, it resorted to a military strategy in the belief that the physical liquidation of the PLO would guarantee its political demise: hence the Israeli invasion of the Lebanon in the summer of 1982. The invasion was resisted only by the Palestinians and their allies among the Lebanese. They stood firm, with remarkable heroism, in the face of the most arrogant military power in the Middle East. Besieged in Beirut, with no assistance from any party, they

were compelled, as a result of barbaric Israeli strikes from the air, sea and land, to leave Beirut in order to spare its civilian population. Most of the Palestinian fighters left the Lebanon and removed their institutions, leading Israel to believe for a moment that the PLO had been finished politically. But Israel was disappointed for the second time when it realized that the PLO continued to occupy its position as the representative of the Palestinian people and that the world was still dealing with it in that capacity. In the light of the invasion of the Lebanon, the world, in fact, came to regard the PLO with greater seriousness than before in view of the political role it might be able to play to solve the Middle East crisis, especially after it became evident that the Palestinian people, within and outside the occupied territories, had maintained their allegiance to it.

While the PLO was busy rearranging itself after the Fes Summit, and while Israel was absorbed in defending its invasion of the Lebanon, domestically and internationally, after the failure of its campaign became obvious, the PLO suddenly found itself engaged in a new battle on its own domestic front. The situation was both dangerous and unacceptable, especially since Israel had patently failed to destroy the PLO or obliterate its role. It was even more dangerous in view of the fact that some of our Arab brethren were encouraging the dissensionist movement in the name of reform. They were interfering in the affairs of the PLO in full public view without bothering to renounce their commitment to Summit decisions — of Rabat and Baghdad — not to interfere in the PLO's internal affairs. Like the rest of the world, we were astonished and could find no explanation. But

question is: For how long will we allow time to serve a greedy enemy who every day eats up part of the remaining land while we dissipate our time in fruitless argument and recrimination?

How long shall we heed those among us who say: leave it future generations? Is this not a clear abdication of responsibility? Is each generation not responsible for the era in which it lives? What makes them believe that the circumstances of future generations will be more conducive to achieving what they are avoiding to achieve? Can they stop time and progress for the enemy and keep them moving for themselves? What wisdom or morality is there in leaving future generations a heavy legacy which is apt to grow more onerous than to recede? And will the Palestinians, who are lost in a sea of suffering under occupation, accept this kind of argument when they know better than any body else the import of granting the enemy even more time and of the resulting impact on their existence and future?

The least that can be said about this argument is that it constitutes an escape from responsibility. The least that can be said about its advocates is that they are a breed which believe that the earth is continuous with their own existence. This is not the way the world goes. Each generation has its own responsibilities. The justification of the existence of a ruler or leader rests on the fulfilment of his responsibilities with wisdom and courage, with vigour and sincerity. It is not indefinite suspension but proper utilization that endows time with meaning.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In this presentation, my intention has been to delineate, with the utmost precision, the place of the Palestinian cause in the Arab mind as well as on the political map. Perhaps you share with me the observation that the picture is bleak and that, in consequence, it requires a fresh outlook and a new approach. The new outlook must begin by defining a future course of action. Perhaps, again, the natural starting point would be to emphasize the special relationship which ties Jordan to Palestine, a relationship forged by purely objective factors of history, geography and demography, which have placed the two brotherly countries and peoples, since the beginning of the century, in the same boat of suffering and hope, of interest and harm, of history and destiny. The particularity of our relationship is not a whimsical self-description but a scientific fact which has made the Palestinian question a daily and central concern in our lives and a basis of our defence, foreign and development policies. If to our brethren the Palestine question is one of their foreign and defence priorities, to us, as to you, it is the foremost priority. Consequently, Palestine has never been a political tool to serve our state objectives or our selfish ends. In its heart lies Jerusalem, the cradle of Jesus and the site of Muhammad's ascension to Heaven. It is the playground of Al-Shafi'i's youth, the battlefield of Saladin, the resting place of Al-Hussein ibn Ali, and the martyrs' stairway to glory. It is the threshold which the invaders of Jordan would cross, just as Jordan to Palestine is the gate of conquest.

The defence of Palestine is a defence of Jordan as a defence of Palestine. Such is the special relationship which determines and will continue to determine Jordanian policy, and it is this distinctive bond that the enemy has tried to undermine. Also, there were some who tried to distort it by ascribing to its spurious notions of a desire by one flank to control the other. Be that as it may, it is within the framework of this relationship that the First Palestine Congress was held twenty years ago and that the Seventeenth Session of your Council holds its meetings today in Amman.

It is this relationship, Ladies and Gentlemen, that prompts me to be frank with you. In order that there be no shadow of a doubt about what I intend to say, let me emphasize at the outset that there is nothing in our court appealing to efforts for a peaceful settlement of the Palestine question. What I intend to express is no more than our opinion based on experience and analysis of realities, capabilities and prevailing conditions. In this I am encouraged by the fact that you too are people of experience. I hope that my words will not be construed as a desire to interfere in your affairs. The decision is yours, and Jordan will not speak for you, although it is fully prepared to join you in facing our common destiny. If the picture I have presented is bleak, one reason is that Arab and Palestinian action has dropped from its calculations the special relationship which ties Jordan to Palestine. This has led to a deviation of effort from its proper course. If things appear difficult at the moment, it is because of the

time we wasted on disagreement, conflict and recrimination — despite our sincere efforts to rectify any errors, which the general Arab situation has prevented us from doing. The enemy was left free to utilize time in his favour on the soil of Palestine. We failed to strike a balance between the justice of our cause and our physical and strategic capabilities, with a view to reducing the effects of America's unquestioned support for Israel. We allowed the interests of our individual states to overshadow our national responsibilities. At the end of the day, we arrived at the present disarray in judgement and dissipation of capabilities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Since we stand to lose the most from a continuation of this state of affairs, we naturally bear the greatest obligation to rectify it. So far, we have succeeded in foiling attempts at freezing both our role and yours. Experience has taught us to avoid inaction because it carries as much danger to your role as did the failed attempts to destroy your legitimacy. Dealing with the Palestine question requires a great measure of flexibility and dynamism to allow for adaptation to the requirements of the moment and for the ability to face all challenges in the interest of serving one clear objective: the liberation of the land, of our people and of our holy places. Simply to say "This is what I want and nothing else" is to be immobilized. From time to time positions need to be reviewed and a new outlook formulated in the light of changing realities. Interacting with the world requires continued flexibility and movement. It will be good to remember that there is no place for slogans if they are turned into constraints preventing motion or manoeuvre. There is no need for guides to action.

Let us be frank about your sacred cause. It holds the same interest to us as it does to you and its repercussions affect us as they affect you. The international position at large is one that perceives the possibility of restoring the occupied territories through a Jordanian-Palestinian formula which requires commitments from both our parties considered by the world as necessary for the achievement of a just, balanced and peaceful settlement. If you find this option convincing — recommended further by our ties as two families linked together by a united destiny and common goals — we are prepared to go with you down this path and present the world with a joint initiative for which we will marshal support. If, on the other hand, you believe that the PLO is capable of going it alone, then we say to you "God-speed: You have our support." In the final analysis, the decision is yours. Whatever it is, we will respect it because it emanates from your esteemed Council, which is the representative of the Palestinian people.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

If you decide to adopt the first option I presented, namely the Jordanian-Palestinian formula, allow me to share with you our understanding of how the present situation can be transcended and effective action set in motion. The existing facts in the Palestinian, Arab and international arenas require us to adhere to Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for a just peaceful settlement. The principle of "territory for peace" is the landmark which should guide us in any initiative we present to the world. This principle is not a precondition but a framework within which negotiations will be carried out. As such, it is non-negotiable. Negotiations we deem necessary within the framework of an international Peace Conference should revolve around the means, methods and commitments which would guarantee the achievement of the principle of "territory for peace."

The international conference would be held under the auspices of the United Nations and would be attended by the permanent members of the Security Council and by all the parties to the conflict. The Palestine Liberation Organization would attend on an equal footing with the other parties, since it is the party empowered to address the most important and momentous aspect of the Middle East crisis, namely the Palestinian dimension. Organizing the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship is a basic responsibility of the Jordanian and Palestinian people. No other party, be it foe, friend or brother, has the right to interfere or to decide for them, since such action would constitute an encroachment on Jordan's sovereignty and a blatant interference in the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination. In addition, introducing this issue into the efforts to restore the land will provide the

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## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

### Al Ra'i: Palestinian will prevail

THE CONVENING of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman is a victory for the Palestinian will and legitimacy, as it is a victory for the independent decision.

His Majesty King Hussein offered Jordan's hand for building a joint Jordanian-Palestinian stand, capable of moving the Palestine question forward in the international arena and for the implementation of the non-negotiable principle: land for peace, through holding an international peace conference under the auspices of the United Nations.

With all the honesty and openness King Hussein always adheres to, His Majesty made it clear before the PNC that the Council is not bound or obliged to accept this option and that the reason behind it does not lie in the availability of something presented in the form of a peaceful solution to the Palestine question, but within the special and distinguished relation between the Palestinians and Jordanians.

King Hussein has preferred to present his perception before the Palestinians and Jordanians and the whole world. Jordan has nothing to conceal, since it has a clear-cut principled stand. The decision the Palestinians want is left for the PNC, which bears a historical responsibility. Such a responsibility does not allow for hesitation since events are accelerating and time is passing quickly.

Therefore the Palestinian perception should be as clear and frank as the Jordanian one, and this is what Jordan expects.

### Sawt Al Shaab: A perception for debate

UNDER THE banner of unity, Joint Goals and Fate for an Independent Palestinian Decision, the Palestine National Council (PNC) met Thursday with a quorum guaranteed. Palestinians rejoined here on the grounds of independent decision and freedom of will and fate.

The PNC opening session reflected a national and patriotic demonstration, which came up with a number of facts that constitute a unique historical event in the Palestinian question's march. The Palestinians and Jordanians have defused the mines which have been planted along the path of the Palestine question. Palestine has always been one of the major concerns of His Majesty King Hussein and a point of polarisation and axis politics. But it has never been a political tool employed to serve regional and selfish purposes. In his speech before the PNC members, King Hussein stressed that defending of Palestine means defending Jordan and vice versa.

In his keen interest not to relinquish the right or to abandon historical duty, King Hussein presented his perception for a joint Jordanian-Palestinian framework, which will serve as a basis for a move on the Arab and international arenas in order to restore the usurped rights and to liberate the occupied land.

Any Jordanian-Palestinian moves within the framework of this perception will serve as a nucleus for a broader Arab work geared at presenting this position and joint perception to the whole world, and that they are able to take the lead of their cause.

Jordan will never endeavour to establish a unilateral peace, neither will it act for the Palestinians in determining their future and the method of work they deem fit for solving the Palestine problem.

Jordan has always put Palestine in front of its targets and at the head of its priorities. The delicate stage we are witnessing nowadays requires that we all stand firmly and honestly before our duties and responsibilities.

Thursday's

### Al Ra'i: Towards reestablishing unity

THE PALESTINE National Council's 17th session is a first action by the PLO towards reestablishing its firm steps towards ending inter-Palestinian differences and re-organising the Palestinian house. It is a step which will lend further support to the steadfastness of the Arab population under Israeli rule and could pave the way for resolving disputes among Arab states. At the same time, we should realise the enormous burden to be shouldered by the council members in the present circumstances and the sensitivity of the issues which they will be discussing over the coming days.

Nevertheless, the fact that they met in Amman reflects their determination to reach fruitful results concerning the future programmes of the PLO. What is required from the council members is to find a formula for joint Jordanian-Palestinian action to serve as a nucleus for common Arab action on the international level through which the Arab Nation can ensure restoration of the usurped lands.

### Al Dustour: Support from under occupation

ON THE eve of the convening of the Palestine National Council in Amman the Arab masses under Israeli occupation voiced total support for the PLO and the meeting in Amman. They did that by staging widespread demonstrations against the Israeli occupation authorities and by offering sacrifices — martyrs of dead and wounded people gunned down by Israeli troops.

The demonstrations in Birzeit and Ramallah came to express the Arab people's determination to back the legitimate leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organization and its leaders. The demonstrations came to thwart all attempts by certain circles aimed at disrupting the work of the council and to foil conspiracies being hatched against the Palestinian revolution.

The PNC members will no doubt realise the meaning of this message which will enhance these members' determination to work diligently and to spare no efforts for fulfilling the Palestinian people's aspirations in freedom and liberation.

### Sawt Al Shaab: Serving common goals

THE MEMBERS of the Palestine National Council now meeting in Amman have great responsibility towards the Palestinian people and the liberation of Palestine. The meeting marks the first step towards re-organising the Palestinian house and safeguarding the unity of the Palestinian people.

The members have a historic responsibility towards not only the Palestinians but also the Arab Nation at large. The meeting which takes place not far from the occupied city of Jerusalem and the holy places in Palestine should serve as a great incentive to all of them to spare no efforts towards fulfilling the aspirations of the people. As they meet, the Arab population under Israeli rule continue their heroic uprising against the Zionist authorities, offering further sacrifices and martyrs for the Palestinian cause.





## Talking straight Marwan Muasher

### King calls for initiative

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enemy with an opportunity to disrupt any serious attempt at rescuing it from existing occupation and creeping annexation.

In our view, these broad lines may serve as the general framework for a Jordanian-Palestinian initiative to be presented to our Arab brethren for their support, in accordance with the Rabat resolutions. Then, together with our Arab brethren, we could go out to the rest of the world and seek widening support until it is adopted by the entire community of influential states.

We do not commit you to our vision, nor do we seek to impose it on you. The decision is yours, and so is the responsibility. We offer to you out of a sense of sharing — whether in peace or in danger, for good or for bad. We are prepared to do anything for your cause — our cause — except conclude a separate peace.

Let us remember that the world — and the Arabs — will judge you by the results of your Council's present session. We do not seek to outbid one another, for it is not a case of success in scoring points. It is an honest attempt to draw up a joint position to which people could be rallied. We have no differences as long as Palestine is the goal on which we meet.

The occupied territories have reached the stage where neither outbidding nor excessive tact is feasible, as they both constitute weapons we would be delivering to Israel to carry through its plans and programmes to annex the land and uproot the people. The scoring of points against you began since you announced your intention to hold your Seventeenth Session in Amman. The purpose was to freeze you in place and erode your legitimacy. Some have said that holding your meeting in Amman is indicative, implying that cooperation with Amman was an act of betrayal or treason. To those we say: "Yes, holding the meeting in Amman is indicative, because the people in the occupied territories see it and the Palestinian people welcome it." Its significance lies in the probability of drawing up a Jordanian-Palestinian position, a proper position leading to correct action in the right direction. In any case, it is up to you, for the decision is yours to make.

# I have been through most refreshing encounter

I CHOOSE to write today about a somewhat personal and what might seem as a rather insignificant event that I found most interesting. In the midst of all the events taking place in the world at large, even a writer gets tired occasionally of all the analysis, scrutiny, judgments and interpretations. Writing about a personal experience gives a writer some breathing space, allowing him to forget about world events, and to, once in a while, remind his readers and himself of our humanity.

I went to Petra last weekend. A group of friends and I spent the weekend there, enjoying a city and a nature that I for one have always taken for granted. I am not writing today, however, to describe the awesomeness of the city or the experience, but rather to talk about a fascinating encounter with a Bedouin that we met

there. Ali is a young man about thirty or so years old. He has spent all of his life in Petra, but he came across an experience which seems to have had a lasting influence on him, and which he was gracious enough to share with us.

Many years back, when Ali was sixteen, an Englishman came to visit Petra. Ali served as his guide, showing him around the ancient city. The two men struck a friendship which lasted after the Englishman left in the form of letters which the two exchanged. (Ali, incidentally, speaks English fluently, though with an accent.) One day, his English friend wrote to him inviting him to come and visit England. After some hesitating and money-borrowing, Ali was finally able to make the trip, which occurred sometime around 1975.

Ali described the experience to us. Though almost 10 years had passed his account was both vivid and accurate. Nowhere did I sense any exaggeration or showing-off on his part. He narrated what he saw, did, and felt, and that made his account warm and sincere, if at times funny.

His first thrill was being in an airplane, where "you could see blue water both above and below you". But his first introduction to the world was through Heathrow Airport. Ali made a fuss there when he realised they did not hand him his suitcase the minute he stepped off the plane. It took some explaining to tell him it would arrive on a conveyor belt, and to his amazement, he did get it. His English friend was on his house, leaving Ali fascinated at this big world he had just stepped into.

He told us of many interesting incidents that he had to cope with. One time, he met a couple of girls and invited them to dinner. He cooked an Arabic dish for them, but was so frustrated at not finding plain yogurt in the supermarket. He could not understand why in the world would anyone want his yogurt flavoured with strawberry or the like. Later after lunch, the girls had some chocolate which they ate without inviting him to a piece. That had such a bad impression on him, to the point where it was just about the only thing he said he did not like there.

Then some friends of his host invited him to tea at four. When he showed up at ten to four, he was surprised at the hosts for not letting him in. He was too early, they said. Finally, he did go in, to be greeted

by a big pet dog which was much better treated in the house than him. He said that if the host was an Arab, he would have spared no moment hitting him.

He complained about the fact that it rained all the time in England. He went once on a train with a girlfriend of his. The train was very crowded, with only one seat left. He sat on it very matter-of-factly, and could not fathom why his friend was so upset at him for letting her stand up.

Somebody must have thought Ali's trip would not be complete without taking him to a strip-tease show. Ali told us, in a tone of naive innocence, how they have girls there that are completely nude. When he found out what he was getting into, he would have nothing to do with it, refusing to go in. And you know what, I believe

him. After spending two months and seven days in England, Ali was ready to go home. He got lost in the airport, and after being really late, he finally managed to step into the plane, to face the looks of dismayed passengers who were made to wait for him.

I asked him if he liked the experience or the culture. He had no hesitation. He enjoyed it thoroughly, he said. When I asked him what he liked most about the place there, I was expecting an answer having to do with the nature or the ease of life. What he liked most, he said, was the order and respect people had for each other there. He most appreciated the fact that nobody interfered in the life of everybody else, that people were left to do what they wanted. The only thing he took against the British was

that "they don't respect visitors."

He told us of many other encounters he experienced there. I don't even know why I am writing all this, except for the fact that somehow, I was very taken by him. This is definitely not meant as a comparison between two cultures, nor is it a philosophical attempt at reconciling two different ways of life through the eyes of one individual human being. I merely saw it as a warm account of a personal experience by someone who did not necessarily care to put more things in it.

It is so nice to, once in a while, listen to someone who sees life through a different perspective. To hear such an account from someone with a nature as simple and yet as clear as that of a Bedouin was indeed refreshing.

## PNC elects Saeh to replace Fahoum

(Continued from page 1)

on the PNC to meet."

The argument later developed into a manifestation of political differences within Palestinian ranks and revealed that the issue of removing Mr. Fahoum was in essence political and consistent with the policy lines of the Fateh leadership.

Moreover, the debate in the council was only a projection of ongoing, behind-the-curtain, deliberations and negotiations between Fateh and the other factions which refused to attend the council.

According to Palestinian sources some of the non-attending factions, including the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine and (DFLP) the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), and a number of Amman-based PNC members have asked Fateh not to replace Mr. Fahoum and the existing PLO Executive Committee.

These demands were justified on the basis that by maintaining Mr. Fahoum as PNC speaker, the PLO will contribute to keep open channels with Syria and Syrian-based PLO factions.

The Fateh Central Committee, which insists on getting rid of "Syrian dominance" in the PLO, refused and saw the removal of Mr. Fahoum as one step towards achieving the "independence of the Palestinian decision-making process."

The tendency of Fateh was clearly revealed through statements made by Fateh Central Committee members like Salah Khalaf, Khaled Al Hassan and Mr. Arafat himself in reply to opinions voiced by a number of PNC members that reasons that compelled the relieving of Mr. Fahoum be discussed.

In the debate, Mrs. Intissar Al Wazir, treasurer of the Fateh revolutionary council, suggested that the PNC start a discussion on "Palestinian national unity". The suggestion was apparently aimed at exposing support Mr. Fahoum received from Syrian-backed Palestinian dissidents.

But Mr. Khalaf objected and called on the council to close discussion on the subject. Mr. Hassan supported Mr. Khalaf's proposal "since all our people here and from the Israeli-occupied territories" know everything about

the crisis of the PLO and who was the conflict."

At this point, Deputy Speaker Za'atoun opposed both Mr. Hassan and Mr. Khalaf and supported the idea of discussing the reasons behind replacing Mr. Fahoum.

"What Mr. Hassan is calling for contravenes the PNC statute," Mr. Za'atoun ruled. "Either I run the council according to its statute or I step down," he said.

But Mr. Hassan shot back: "Why is that in previous sessions, when Fateh and other factions used to have accord, the speaker of the council never questioned the legality of such procedures?" hinting that "behind-the-curtain agreements" among all factions under which "everything was passed without question."

Mr. Hassan is well known as a staunch advocate of abandoning the consensus decision-making process within the PLO and adopting majority decisions instead.

Several PNC members, obviously irritated by the debate, demanded to know "why the leadership insisted at one stage to elect Fahoum and now why it is pushing, with the same det-

ermination, to remove him."

At this point, Mr. Arafat intervened and disclosed that he himself, during the 16th PNC session in Algiers in February 1983, had asked Mr. Fahoum's main rival, Yassin Sharif, to withdraw from elections for the speakership.

The request to Mr. Sharif, Mr. Arafat said, was "aimed at preserving the Palestinian unity."

Political observers interpreted Mr. Arafat's disclosure as implying that pro-Syrian and Damascus itself wanted Mr. Fahoum elected as PNC speaker.

During Friday's session, Mr. Arafat also revealed that the exiled mayors of Hebron and Halab, Mr. Fahd Al Qawasm and Mr. Mohammad Milhem respectively, are actually part of the 180 PNC members representing the Israeli-occupied West Bank.

"They are both members from the occupied territories," he said. "There is no need for the house to take a vote to install them as members."

Finally the issue was put to vote and the majority agreed to relieve Mr. Fahoum from his post.

## World support

(Continued from page 1)

ference, which he said, crystallised in three points.

The first, he said, is related to the nature of settlement proposed while the second deals with the legal and political framework and the third is related to the venue to be taken.

Dr. Mursi confirmed the Pal-

estian people's rights to "repatriation, self-determination and the establishment of their own Palestinian state on their national soil."

Another speaker at the evening session was Dr. Murad Ghaleb, representative of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Organisation.

## The historic meet

(Continued from page 1)

warm greetings with Mr. Arafat, they embraced each other and His Majesty and Mr. Arafat left the auditorium together.

Mr. Arafat returned at 9:00 p.m. after he had farewelled to the King. On his way to his seat, Mr. Arafat was engaged in greeting members of the PNC and delegates, foreign press photographers rushed forward and took hundreds of pictures.

Mr. Arafat mounted the platform and stood behind the speech counter saying, "I forgot to thank Tunisia for their hospitality although it was enclosed in my opening speech, but I just forgot to read that page." PNC sources later informed the Jordan Times that Mr. Arafat paid a visit to the head of the Tunisian Delegation to the PNC to make up for neg-

lecting to mention Tunisia at the start of the meeting.

At 9:37, Mr. Za'atoun asked PNC members, delegates and invitees to maintain order in order to start the quorum session. Mr. Arafat returned to his original seat in the first row. Mr. Arafat would interrupt the quorum session a number of times to comments.

A member of the observers asked Mr. Za'atoun if the session could be more organised. Mr. Za'atoun angrily replied, "Observers are not allowed to interrupt the session and comment."

The King's speech was distributed in English and Arabic which pleased foreign reporters as well as many other attendees. Copies were in such heavy demand that the process of distributing them nearly disturbed the King's speech.

## Peres expects attacks

(Continued from page 1)

expected an upsurge in anti-occupation attacks as a result of the PNC meeting in Amman.

Mr. Peres' three-month-old coalition government has taken no position on the future of the occupied West Bank and has not stated a specific negotiating stance. But Mr. Peres' Labour Party has endorsed the concept of "territorial compromise."

Other Labour Party spokesmen

were more optimistic about remarks by King Hussein and PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat at the opening session of the PNC Thursday night.

Abbas Eban, chairman of parliament's foreign affairs and defence committee, told Israel Radio that King Hussein's speech contained "nothing new" but indicated Jordan may be seeking peace talks (See story on page 2).

## Habash, Hawatmeh leave Moscow

(Continued from page 1)

TASS then added that "it was pointed out that arrangements reached in Aden and Algiers remain topical. Their implementation would be of positive importance and would serve as a basis for overcoming difficulties in the PLO."

TASS declined to say which side had made these points, and omitted any mention of a resolution, indicating disagreement.

The wording of the TASS report suggested that the Soviets urged unity on the visiting Palestinian leaders and wanted them to rally behind Moscow's longtime ally, PLO leader Yasser Arafat.

TASS did not say who the visiting Palestinians met, or whether they were all present at different discussions it said took place between Monday and Friday.

It said only that the Palestinian leaders were invited by the Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee and received at the International Department of the Communist Party Central Committee.

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## Egypt's Zamalek secures first leg of African Champions' Cup

CAIRO (R) — Two second-half goals by midfielder Gamal Abdul Hamid gave Egypt's Zamalek a 2-0 victory over Shooting Stars of Nigeria in their first-leg clash here Friday in the final of the African Champions' Cup.

Hamid, a driving force behind his side's magnificent comeback in the semi-finals, opened the scoring in the 59th minute with a header.

He rose above two Stars defenders to head home a cross floated in by winger Adel Abdul Wahid who came on in the second half to take Magdi Tulba's place in Zamalek's forward line.

In the 70th minute, midfielder Aiman Younis was brought down by Stars' defenders who sandwiched him in the right hand side

of the box. Referee John Fidel ruled a penalty which Hamid converted to the left of goalkeeper Raymond King.

Hamid, who electrified crowds with flashes of virtuosity, opened the score two weeks ago in the second-leg clash with Algeria's JSM in the semi-finals and set up two more of the goals that took his side to the final on a 4-3 aggregate score.

Hamid's two goals Friday came when Zamalek's hopes of clinching their first-ever African title

appeared to have faltered.

They came close several times in the opening minutes but could not find the target, thanks to King who pulled off a string of marvellous saves.

Nigerian international Rachid Yekini, on his part, squandered what could have been a valuable away-goal in the 20th minute when he had only goalkeeper Adel Abdul Maamour to beat but shot wide near the left post.

Yekini, who has slammed in six goals so far in the championship, was a constant threat to the Egyptians, but centre-back Ibrahim Yousef kept him out.

Apart from King, the Nigerians were in debt to captain Felix Owolabi and Friday Christopher who denied the Egyptians a higher score.

## Budd to run in Zurich next month

STELLENBOSCH, South Africa (R) — South African-born athlete Zola Budd said Friday she would take part in a road race in Zurich later this year.

But the 18-year-old runner, who obtained British citizenship earlier this year to circumvent the international sports boycott of South Africa, said she was still undecided whether to continue her international career after that race.

Budd has been pondering her future for several weeks after a stormy introduction to international athletics culminating in her participation in the Los Angeles Olympics.

South Africa is banned from international sport because of its apartheid policy of racial segregation.

"I've only planned my career until Dec. 30 when I will participate in a road race in Zurich and will have a rethink on my future after this race," Budd said at a

press conference.

It was also announced that her financial and contractual interests would be taken over by the Zola Budd Sport Trust, to be administered jointly by Janja Momborg, Vice-President of the South African Athletics Union, Pieter Labuschagne, her coach, and Graham Boonzaier, a local businessman.

Her father, Frank, who has previously looked after much of her affairs, has not been included in the trust.

Momborg said: "We want to take the pressure off Zola so that she can leave herself free to run. We don't want any hassles for Zola. We would like to see her happy and give her peace of mind."

"We believe she is the best middle distance runner the world has ever seen and this would be a way for her to fulfil her potential."

Until recently, Budd was under contract to the London Daily Mail

newspaper which controlled her movements and prevented her talking to any other media.

Momborg said the event in Zurich had been chosen to give Budd a chance to get back into running without the pressures of the past.

Budd said one of the chief reasons for her decision was that she did not want her last memory in international running to be a bad one, referring to her collision on the track with American star Mary Decker in Los Angeles.

"I would like to have better memories and so I am giving it one more try. I am very happy to be able to trust people who will look after my interests," she added.

Budd denied she had written the much publicised diary in the Daily Mail which at one stage nearly led to her expulsion from the Olympics.

"I didn't write the diaries, the Mail did. Sometimes it was with my help, sometimes not," she added.

## Turnbull, Navratilova through to semifinals

SYDNEY (R) — Australia's Wendy Turnbull beat a tiring Gigi Fernandez of the U.S. 6-2, 6-1 here Friday to earn a semifinal match against another American, Ann Henricksson, in the New South Wales Women's Open Tennis Championship.

Martina Navratilova, after an easy 6-3, 6-2 victory Friday over South Africa's Yvonne Vermaak, will take on fellow-American Zina Garrison, a 6-3, 7-6 winner over West Germany's Claudia Kohde, in Saturday's other semifinal.

The four semifinal players illustrate the different prospects of those on the women's professional circuit.

A win for 31-year-old Turnbull Saturday will make her the first Australian tennis player to earn more than \$2 million in career prize money — while her 25-year-old opponent has not yet earned enough to pay for her college fees.

Navratilova has won more than \$2 million this year alone while the 21-year-old Garrison, eighth in this year's money winners' list with \$166,800, is one of the pack of young players looking to take over Navratilova's mantle.

Turnbull is not impressed by the prospect of entering the record books. "I'd rather be known for the number of titles I've won," she said Friday.

"At the moment I'm number three all-time, but in 10 years' time I might be number 23 or 53. I don't think of the money, just of playing and winning," Turnbull said.

This is not the case for Henricksson who Friday beat Dutch number one Marcella Mesker 7-5, 6-4 in the quarter-finals.

Henricksson, who left college to join the circuit, is now hoping to save enough money to continue her studies. In her four years on the circuit the young woman from Minnesota has won only \$67,232.

"All I can hope for is to keep improving my ranking. I don't look to the top 10 or 20, just to improve," Henricksson said.

Henricksson, primarily a doubles player, should certainly give Turnbull more trouble than Fernandez, who was still tired from her rough 6-4, 7-5 win over France's Pascale Paradis 6-4, 7-5 in a third round match earlier in the day.

## McEnroe's withdrawal from Australian Open boosts Pat Cash's chances

MELBOURNE (R) — World number one John McEnroe's withdrawal from the Australian Open Tennis Championships has thrown the event wide open and could boost the chances of local lad Pat Cash.

The organisers of the open, which runs from next Monday to Dec. 9, were Friday waiting to hear if Jimmy Connors would agree to replace McEnroe who was forced out by an injured wrist.

McEnroe's injury deprived him of the chance to win his third successive Grand Slam title and left last year's finalists, Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl and Sweden's Mats Wilander, as the top seeds.

But volatile 14-year-old Cash, who was a semifinalist this year at Wimbledon and in the United States Open, believes he has a golden chance of becoming the first Australian to win his country's open in eight years.

Melbourne-born Cash, the world number 10, has already beaten Wilander, the 1983 Australian champion, twice this year and took Lendl to five sets in the most thrilling match of the U.S. Open at Flushing Meadow.

Cash reached the last 16 of the 1983 Australian Open where he was also beaten by Lendl. The Czechoslovak was eventually trounced in straight sets by Wilander in the final.

The Swede, who beat McEnroe in the semifinal, was primarily using the Australian Open to prepare for the Davis Cup final, played on the same grass courts at Kooyong two weeks later.

This practice did not stop Australia beating Sweden 3-2, Wilander hopes for better luck this year as Sweden are due to tackle the U.S. in the 1984 final in Goteborg next month, but this time on a special indoor surface.

Connors, a possible member of the U.S. team, won the 1974 Australian title but has not competed in recent championships.

Apart from providing practice ahead of the Davis Cup final, which Connors has not yet confirmed he will play in, the American may also be attracted by the prize money — the winner of the tournament could receive up to \$260,000.

The organisers have put back the draw till noon on Sunday while they wait for word from the world number three.

There is no such uncertainty in the women's event where Martina Navratilova will be going for her seventh straight Grand Slam victory with only Chris Evert Lloyd — as ever — likely to stop her.

World number three Pam Shriver, who made a nightmare exit from the New South Wales Women's Open this week at the hands of Dutch player Marcella Mesker, is unlikely to mount a serious challenge.

Dejected and depressed, she has pulled out of three lucrative American tournaments after the open at Kooyong saying she needs a three-month break to rethink her approach to tennis.

Navratilova, who is chasing the fourth leg of the calendar-year Grand Slam, needs no such break and Friday cruised into the semifinals of the New South Wales tournament.

Navratilova said Friday after beating South Africa's Yvonne Vermaak that she is a better player than she was last year, and paid tribute to coach Mike Estep.

"If I practised with a woman it would not have any beneficial effect. I'm better than them and all it would achieve is to bring me down," she said.

Lloyd, who has not played any run-up tournaments in Australia, arrived in Melbourne this week and has also been practising with a male partner — her British husband John.

## UEFA orders Rapid, Celtic replay

BERNE (R) — The European Football Union (UEFA) Friday ordered the Cup Winners' Cup second round second leg match between Rapid Vienna and Glasgow Celtic which took place in Glasgow on Nov. 7 to be replayed.

The replay was announced in a statement after UEFA's board of appeal, meeting here, upheld an appeal by Rapid Vienna against their punishment following incidents during the match.

In the statement UEFA said the appeal had been upheld, and the match would be replayed, adding that further details would be released later Friday evening.

Last week, UEFA's control and disciplinary committee rejected Rapid's request that Celtic's 3-0 win, which carried the Scottish side into the quarter-finals 4-3 on aggregate, be reversed.

Rapid claimed that one of their

players, Rudolf Wienhofer, was hit by a bottle thrown from the crowd during the match, and had to leave the field in the 80th minute. They argued that, having used their substitutes, they were left numerically weak.

After hearing evidence from the three match officials and studying the report of the official observer, UEFA said last week that the Austrian club's claim could not be substantiated and the result would stand.

Rapid were fined 15,000 Swiss francs (\$6,300) and Celtic 12,000 Swiss francs (\$5,000) for the incidents.

Rapid's Reinhard Kienast, who was sent off for striking a Celtic player, was banned for four UEFA competition games and trainer Otto Baric was suspended for three matches because of "ungentlemanly conduct."

Celtic's fine was for crowd misbehaviour as two bottles were thrown on to the pitch in the 80th minute.

UEFA also confirmed the bookings of Rapid's Zlatko Kranjcar, Karl Ehn and Peter Brucic, who were all cautioned for rough play. Rapid were also censured for the behaviour of other officials, and subsequently lodged an appeal.

A UEFA press spokeswoman told Reuters later: "The replay Dec. 11 or 12. The Scottish Football Association is responsible for organising it."

"The fine on Rapid Vienna was doubled to 30,000 Swiss francs (\$12,600) and the match-bans on the trainer and player were confirmed."

"The fine on Glasgow Celtic remains unchanged at 12,000 Swiss francs (\$5,000)," she added.

## Windies fast bowlers again humble Australia

BRISBANE (R) — Australia's batsmen again proved no match for West Indies' fast bowlers at the start of the second test at the Brisbane Cricket Ground Friday.

On a blameless pitch and with Michael Holding forced out of the firing line, Australia mustered only 175 in their first innings after being put in. West Indies replied with 65 for one by the close of the opening day and were apparently on course to go two up in the five-match series.

After their defeat by an innings and 117 runs in the first test in Perth two weeks ago, Kim Hughes promised a more determined effort from his Australian team. But it was not to be with West Indies' fast bowlers taking just 272 minutes to bowl out the home team.

To add to Hughes' discomfort, the Australian captain was out hooking after vowing at the start

of the match not to use that stroke unless his team was in a strong position.

Hughes was dismissed in a similar manner during the Perth test and on Friday the West Indians simply set the trap and waited for the Australian skipper to take the bait.

Australia must have hoped that when Holding went off with an injury leg just before lunch after taking one for nine in 6.2 overs, their task would become less daunting.

But his absence did nothing to ease their problems with Joel Garner claiming four wickets — including his 200th in tests — for 67 and young Courtney Walsh, the newest recruit to the West Indian fast bowling brigade, taking three for 55.

Garner started Australia's woes in the first over when he bowled Kepler Wessels for nought. Graeme Wood was also a victim of the

hook, caught off Walsh for 20, and after John Dyson was caught behind off Holding for 13, Australia were 51 for three at lunch.

Two smart slip catches off Malcolm Marshall continued Australia's decline. First Allan Border edged the fast bowler to Lloyd at first slip and then a magnificent effort by Richie Richardson at third slip removed David Boon.

Wicketkeeper Wayne Phillips, coming in at number seven, offered the boldest resistance before being ninth out for 44 which included eight fours. The innings ended when Garner picked off Bob Holland for six.

In contrast to Australia's batting, West Indian openers Gordon Greenidge and Desmond Haynes made comfortable progress as the sun broke through in the evening session. They put on 36 before Alderman cut a ball between Haynes' bat and pad and knocked back his off-stump.

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(Colour)

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Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

### Cinema OPERA

Tel: 23171

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(Colour)

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### Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

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(In colour)

Performances: 12-3-7

### Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

#### THE BRIDGE

(Colour)

Performances: 12-3-5:30-8



## EC ministers agree to cut steel sales to U.S. market

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community (EC) industry ministers have authorized the community commission to negotiate cuts in the trading bloc's steel sales to the United States, Industry Commissioner Etienne Davignon said early Friday.

He told reporters that ministers approved a commission plan to demand a minimum 7.6 per cent share of the U.S. market for steel pipes and tubes.

Mr. Davignon announced the community's demand after ministers spent several hours bargaining over the national share of the proposed export total, which compares with recent community sales capturing 14 per cent of the U.S. market.

Mr. Davignon said the commission informed the Americans Friday that it was ready to negotiate to secure an agreement by Dec. 1.

The U.S. has threatened to halt EC pipe and tube imports until the end of December in the absence of an accord and then to limit sales to 5.9 per cent of its market.

Diplomats said Italy, Luxembourg and Greece opposed the

commission plan for a 7.6 per cent market share target, arguing for a tougher community bargaining position.

The export licence system foreseen by the ministers would last until the end of 1986 with exclusion clauses for major projects, community firms' subsidiaries in the U.S. and cases where the U.S. domestic industry could not supply the steel.

Diplomats said the community would also seek a greater than 7.6 per cent share of the U.S. market for oil pipeline equipment, although this would count towards the overall quota.

Mr. Davignon said the community would not accept discrimination against its exporters and would demand consultations with the U.S. if it found that other countries supplying pipes and tubes had their U.S. market share calculated differently.

Tough new U.S. trade laws allow the government to enforce a 5.9 per cent limit to community pipe and tube exports which was spelt out in an exchange of letters in 1982, when a more binding agreement on carbon steel sales was

also signed.

As a result of Thursday night's bargaining, Italy, France, Britain and West Germany all received higher quotas within the 7.6 per cent limit.

The extra amounts were drawn from a contingency reserve which the commission wanted to set up.

The final figures approved by ministers were as follows — West Germany 2.59 per cent of the U.S. market, Italy 2.1 per cent, France 0.97 per cent, Greece 0.55 per cent, Belgium 0.5 per cent, Britain 0.42 per cent, Netherlands 0.29 per cent, Luxembourg 0.18 per cent.

Community pipe and tube sales to the U.S. earned 370 million ECUS (European Currency Units) \$270 million in 1983, with Italy, West Germany and France the main exporters.

Ministers adjourned until a meeting on Dec. 17 a decision on a commission plan to extend steel industry operating subsidies by 12 months until the end of next year and to raise the amount of aid which can be paid during the restructuring which is due to make the industry viable by then.

## EC, ACP states agree on Lome pact

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) reached agreement with 64 developing countries early Friday on a third "Lome" trade and aid pact, ending over a year of tough negotiation, Irish Foreign Minister Peter Barry said.

Mr. Barry told reporters that representatives of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of states had accepted proposals argued out by community foreign ministers earlier this week for a total aid package of 8.5 billion European Currency Units (6.8 billion) over the five-year life of the new pact.

"We have reached complete agreement on all the texts of the new agreement," Mr. Barry said. "The signing of Lome III will take place on Dec. 8 in Lome."

Talks on the third of the wide-ranging pacts had been stalled since ACP negotiators last month rejected as inadequate the com-

munity's offer of an eight billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$6.4 billion) aid package, diplomats said.

ACP negotiators had said at least 10 billion ECUs (\$8 billion) would be needed to maintain the real value of "Lome II", taking into account inflation and an imminent enlargement of the group to include Angola and Mozambique.

The new offer was agreed by the community on Tuesday after tough talks in which Britain and West Germany persistently refused to increase their contributions, diplomats said. The ACP states had little alternative but to accept it.

ACP chief negotiator Mr. Rabie Namaliu of Papua New Guinea said many aspects of the new pact were not as the ACP wanted. But he added: "We have reached a point finally today where we have concluded what you might term the best compromise."

European Commissioner Edgar Pisani stressed the agreement took into account both the expected entry into the community of Spain and Portugal, due in January 1986, and the enlargement of the ACP.

But diplomats said the money could be increased if any other countries, such as Namibia, were to join "Lome" in the future.

Mr. Barry said the precise amount of the Spanish and Portuguese contributions to the fund had not yet been decided.

Mr. Pisani said the talks Thursday night and Friday had produced slight changes in the mak-

eup of the aid package.

The proportion going to special loans and risk capital was reduced with a corresponding increase of 70 million ECUs (\$56 million) in direct grants.

Risk capital refers to money lent to private firms through institutions such as local development banks, while the special loans are subsidised loans through the European Investment Bank (EIB), officials said.

Mr. Pisani said the two sides had also reached an agreement on human rights.

Diplomats said this had long been an object of contention, with ACP states rejecting what they saw as community attempts to make aid dependent on a clean human rights record.

It was decided to include a passage drawn directly from the United Nations universal charter on

human rights in the text of the agreement, Mr. Pisani said. There would also be a condemnation of apartheid in the part of the pact entitled "Human Dignity".

According to commission figures, 7.4 billion ECUs (\$5.92 billion) of the 8.5 billion ECU (\$6.8 billion) total aid package will go on direct aid to the ACP countries with the remainder in the form of EIB loans.

Of this direct aid, 4.86 billion ECUs (\$3.89 billion) will go on grants, and 600 million ECUs (\$480 million) each on special loans and risk capital.

A further 925 million ECUs (\$740 million) will go to the "Staber" fund which compensates for losses in agricultural earnings due to price fluctuations, with 415 million ECUs (\$332 million) for "Systim" which does the same for mineral exports.

## Kuwaiti minister outlines GCC food policy

KUWAIT (OPECNA) — The food policy of the six Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states is based on stockpiling food reserves and reexporting the surplus, according to Kuwaiti Commerce and Industry Minister Jassim Khalid Al Marzuq.

He said GCC food requirements would be stockpiled in Khor Fakan and Fujairah, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE), because of their proximity to international shipping routes.

Another option currently being examined was to import food from South East Asian countries and reexport the surplus to countries

in Africa and Asia.

He said with Saudi Arabia and the UAE having become major vegetable growers, the region should soon be self-sufficient.

Mr. Al Marzuq said there were certain obstacles in the implementation of the unified economic agreement reached by the GCC last year, but he attributed them to the agreement's "en-

ormous and comprehensive nature, encompassing much detail".

The minister said the GCC accord had widened the scope of bilateral agreement reached among member states before the formation of the regional grouping.

The GCC consists of Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Oman and Kuwait.

Meanwhile, foreign ministers of the GCC have approved a recommendation to unify their oil product prices.

The ministers, meeting in preparation for the GCC summit due to open here Nov. 22 also agreed that the group's ad hoc committee on gas should continue examining

ways of exploiting natural gas in member countries.

A plan aimed at increasing GCC financial, economic and human resources was also approved, and the ministers agreed that the GCC secretariat should continue its talks with the European Economic Community.

## Morocco, Libya sign cooperation agreement

BEIRUT (R) — Libya and Morocco Thursday signed a cooperation agreement covering communications and shipping during a visit to Tripoli by Moroccan Transport Minister Mansouri Benali, the official Libyan news agency JANA reported.

The agreement, signed by Mr. Benali and Libyan communications Secretary (Minister) Mubarak Al Shamekh, provides for the exchange of experts and the establishment of joint ventures in communications and marine transport, JANA said.

The agency, monitored in Beirut, said it also covered cooperation between the two countries' shipping companies and in the maintenance of meteorological and communications equipment.

Meanwhile, Morocco will increase defence spending next year by about ten per cent to \$725 million, about \$2 million a day, according to 1985 budget estimates published in Rabat Thursday.

This represents approximately 13.5 per cent of total budget expenditure, estimated at about \$5,360 million at the current official rate of exchange.

Next year's total includes about \$465 million for the armed forces, understood to number about 140,000 officers and men in the army, navy and air force, and the gendarmerie or para-military police.

The remainder goes to auxiliary troops, police and state security forces which are controlled by the interior ministry.

## Federal Reserve Board eases borrowing interest

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. central bank has signalled its worry about the slowing American economy by cutting the discount rate to 8.5 per cent to stimulate commerce.

The reduction by a half percentage point, announced Wednesday by the Federal Reserve Board (Fed), could help debtor nations if it is followed by reductions in other interest rates on which foreign loan payments are based — such as the prime rate of major U.S. banks.

The discount rate is the interest the central bank charges to commercial banks on their borrowings.

The Fed said the reasons for the cut were a smaller than expected increase in the country's money supply, sagging business activity, and a strong dollar on international markets.

At the California White House where President Reagan was on holiday, spokesman Mr. Anson Franklin said: "We are pleased by the action. It should lead to a reduction in interest rates and con-

tribute to continued economic growth."

Reagan administration officials have criticised the Fed for maintaining what they considered too tight a grip on credit and stifling economic growth.

The central bank's main tools of monetary policy are changes in the discount rate and adding to or subtracting from the money supply.

Wednesday's reduction brings the discount rate back to the level that prevailed from December 1982 until last April when the Fed raised the rate to nine per cent.

At that time it feared the U.S. economy was overheating and that inflation could get out of hand. But the latest financial statistics showed falling orders for durable goods and new houses.

Economic growth slowed sharply during the summer and inflation has held at a relatively modest four per cent.

The prime interest rate that major banks charge their best business borrowers has fallen three times since September, going from 13 per cent to 11.75 per cent.

## UAE law will alter insurance operations

ABU DHABI (R) — A new law regulating insurance companies in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) will force the majority of the 130 foreign insurance firms operating in the country to either close down or merge, an insurance official said Thursday.

Mr. Muwaffaq Ghazi, general manager of the state-owned Emirates Insurance Company, told Reuters that federal decree no. 9 of 1984, which becomes effective on Jan. 1, would make it difficult for small companies to continue operating.

According to the new law, each insurance company must have a paid-up capital of not less than 10 million dirhams (\$3.1 million).

Mr. Ghazi said most of the 130 firms had paid-up capital of less than this figure.

Also, the firms must be partly owned by a UAE citizen instead of merely being sponsored by one as was the case previously.

Mr. Ghazi described the law as a means of organising insurance activity in the UAE as a result of the proliferation of insurance firms in recent years.

## LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed lower in reaction to easier sterling and the weakness in spot oil markets, dealers said. Some buying for the new account was noted around midsession but prices ended around their lows in slack trading.

At 1530 Friday the FTSE 100 index was down 3.8 at 1154.4. Trading was quiet ahead of the British Telecom flotation. Sentiment was little influenced by Wall Street's firmer opening after the U.S. Thanksgiving holiday Thursday although ICI was up 2p at 654 while TI Group fell 4p to 226 and Beecham 5p to 348.

Government bonds gained up to 1/2 point, reflecting the higher opening in U.S. credit markets. North Americans firmed.

Elsewhere Boots was down 4p at 200 following interim results Thursday, while insurance broker C.E. Heath continued to rise on recent figures and was up 17p to 510. Chloride gave up 3 1/2 to 30 1/2 following six months results. Gold shares were lower.

Oils ended firmer after a weak start on lower spot oil prices. Dealers said cheap buying and pressure on short positions lifted prices with BP up 2p at 485 after 478, Barmah 3p higher at 201 after 198 and Shell 2p up at 613 after 608.

Banks were lower where changed after a quiet session with Lloyds off 5p to 509. Midland returned to 352 after 349 and Natwest was untested at 554. Insurances were firmer.

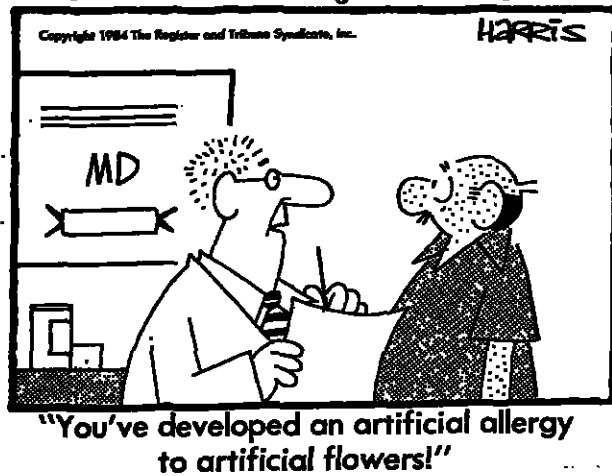
## LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.2227/37	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3176/79	Canadian dollars
	3.0120/30	West German marks
	3.3960/75	Dutch guilders
	2.4915/20	Swiss francs
	60.69/72	Belgian francs
	9.2350/2400	French francs
	1870.5/1871.5	Italian lire
	244.35/45	Japanese yen
	8.6250/6450	Swedish crowns
	8.7625/7825	Norwegian crowns
	10.8650/8850	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	341.90/342.40	U.S. dollars

## THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



## JUMBLE.

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Answer here: ON HIS (Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CRIME MOGUL QUORUM BANISH

Answer: In which it's difficult to row—when you "manipulate" huge oars—a "ROUGH SEA"

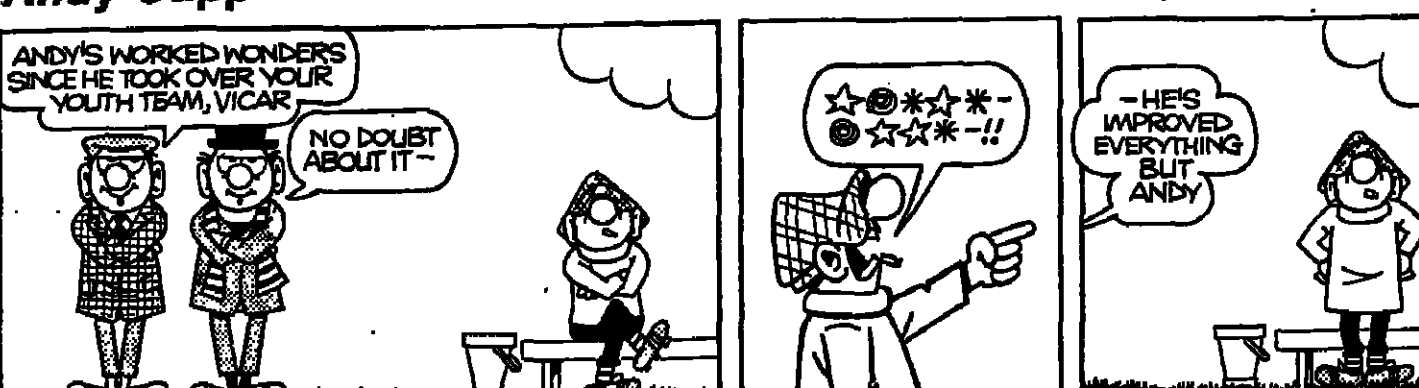
## Peanuts



## Mutt 'n' Jeff



## Andy Capp



## THE Daily Crossword by Barbara J. Weekley

ACROSS

- Mental faculties
- Keen
- Western school letters
- Mine entrance
- He angrier
- Kind of school
- Clairvoyant
- Denmark
- Tear apart
- Cure-all
- 22nd month
- 24
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- 63
- 64

DOWN

- Slingshot
- Notion
- Sky in China
- Left hand
- Withdraw
- Gr. goddess
- Word with mode
- or carte
- Separation center?
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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

STARRY RALE CHAP  
PILAR ALEX RALD  
ALAMO SLOP AGAR  
PUSHING STICK  
PRAISE GEEK  
PATTERED STEET  
ADORED MESA ASP  
HANY LAR MUSTER  
PRIV TIR MISTER  
KINITE CASHIER  
SUTITE LASH CRY  
PINK KACHER  
LATE EVIL ENURE  
TITLED RIDE DEMOS



# Shultz, Gromyko to meet in January

## Planned Geneva talks herald thaw in superpower relations

MOSCOW (R) — Moscow and Washington have agreed after a year of apparent deadlock to resume arms talks starting with a January meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

An announcement made simultaneously in both capitals Thursday said the two men would get together on Jan. 7 and 8 in Geneva, where a year ago the Soviet delegation walked out of the last round of negotiations.

The statement said the two superpowers had agreed to hold new talks on the "entire complex" of questions surrounding their awesome armories.

The aim of the two foreign ministers would be to work out a "joint understanding of the subject and aims of such talks."

Effectively, diplomatic analysts in Moscow said, this meant preparing an agenda for a new forum of negotiations which would have a more comprehensive scope than

the separate talks on medium-range and intercontinental weapons abandoned last year.

Thursday's statement referred to the inclusion of space weapons in the new talks but it was not clear if Moscow was definitely abandoning its prior insistence on removal of U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe before resuming talks.

The initial reaction of Western embassy arms specialists was that Moscow had chosen to sidestep its own precondition by insisting that it was not resuming talks which had been broken off but opening a new and wider sphere of negotiation.

Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Vladimir Lomeiko, who made the announcement, was

adamant on this point. "This is not a renewal of negotiations. It is about new talks, absolutely new negotiations," he told reporters.

But at least one West European diplomat was less than convinced. He said: "It still amounts to a return to the negotiating table which is what Washington has been angling for."

In the summer Moscow came to talks on space weapons, which President Konstantin Chernenko had himself proposed, on the grounds that Washington insisted on reserving the right to raise nuclear arms issues also.

Analysts said the agreement which now appeared to have been reached seemed little different except for the fact that the Soviet insistence on a precise agenda for talks could still be maintained in the Shultz-Gromyko meeting.

But the stress laid by both sides on a broader framework suggested the possibility of attitudes more attuned to a political approach than the weapons numbers

game, they said.

A routine meeting of Warsaw pact foreign ministers to be held in East Berlin in early December is likely to discuss a concerted strategy for further negotiations.

Following the Geneva walkout, Moscow further responded to U.S. cruise and Pershing-2 deployments by stationing new missiles on the territories of pact allies Czechoslovakia and East Germany.

East German leader Erich Honecker appeared to have been restrained from improving contacts with Bonn largely because of the missiles issue, and Romania called on both Washington and Moscow to make greater efforts to secure a disarmament agreement.

Some analysts said a resumption of talks might reflect Soviet interest in showing the allies Moscow was completely inflexible, coupled with realisation in the Kremlin that Ronald Reagan was now in the White House for a further four years.

## Kremlin rules out party meeting

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet leadership has decided against holding the annual winter session of the Communist Party Central Committee and diplomats said they believed internal political conflicts could be the reason.

British officials said visiting Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock had been informed the committee plenum would not take place on Monday as expected and Kremlin appointments set for that day made clear there would be no time.

Western diplomatic experts said the decision not to hold the plenum was unprecedented and most said it could indicate President Konstantin Chernenko wanted to avoid a potential conflict over policy issues or personnel changes.

"There are clearly political rather than procedural reasons for not convening the meeting. It is still a mystery, but it does suggest Mr. Chernenko has some grounds for not wanting a full committee session right now," one diplomat said.

In the past the winter plenum has always approved the following

year's budget and economic plan and then submitted them to the Supreme Soviet (parliament) for endorsement.

The sessions have also often been asked to approve changes in the ruling politburo proposed by the party leader.

The winter Supreme Soviet session is set for next Tuesday. Monday is the only day on which the plenum could have taken place.

Talks arranged for that day have made clear this is not possible. Mr. Chernenko is due to see Mr. Kinnock in the morning and Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, also a politburo member, is meeting Austrian Chancellor Fred Sinowatz in the afternoon.

Western diplomats had already guessed the plenum had been called off after Mr. Chernenko delivered a speech on the economy to the politburo last week and announced he was submitting the budget and economic plan directly to parliament.

"It looked then as if he was going to bypass the Central Committee, but nobody could quite believe it. He's not the sort of man to break with long-standing party

practices if he can avoid it," one diplomat said.

Some embassy analysts said the decision could simply mean a streamlining of bureaucratic practices, as parliament and the Central Committee had always duplicated each other's work. But most said they did not think this was Mr. Chernenko's style.

Those analysts who suspected political reasons for the move said there were still no clear pointers as to what lay behind it.

"It could be that Chernenko has faced opposition to changes he wants to make in the leadership and feared this could turn into an open challenge at the plenum," one said.

Others argued that it was equally possible there were serious disputes over economic policy which could have surfaced at the meeting or promoted some kind of revolt.

The Central Committee, made up of over 300 members, usually meets only twice a year for brief sessions at which decisions already taken by the politburo are endorsed.

## Kinnock tells Soviets miners are not starving

MOSCOW (R) — British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock told Moscow Trade Union leaders Friday that reports in the Soviet media of starving British miners being beaten by police were exaggerated and misleading.

Mr. Kinnock, visiting Moscow at the Kremlin's invitation, said he had felt obliged to put Soviet press reports of the eight-month miners' strike in context when he met with Trades Union chief Stepan Shalayev and other officials Friday.

"I told them that while people were enduring very great hardship, there was clearly no hunger and that the reports of deep privation at that scale were somewhat misleading," Mr. Kinnock told reporters afterwards.

The British opposition leader said he had told the Soviet officials that the violence in the strike was the product of activities of small minorities and that the police were aware of and worried about the bad impression created.

Soviet media reports on the strike have depicted the police as brutally beating miners reduced to starvation levels by a policy of class warfare by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government.

Soviet miners have contributed some half a million roubles (\$600,000) to the miners' strike fund and officials have spoken out in support of miners' leader Arthur Scargill, whose handling of the strike has caused friction with Mr. Kinnock.

Soviet trade unions are nominally independent groupings but are all led by Communist Party members, meaning they are effectively nominated by the government.

### Violence continues

Meanwhile, a masked gang beat up a working coalminer with baseball bats Friday in a spate of violent incidents in Britain's strike-bound coalfields, police said.

Michael Fletcher was taken to hospital with broken bones after six masked men chased him home, kicked down his door and savagely beat him, a police spokesman added.

Mr. Fletcher, 34, was going to work at Fryston Colliery, near Wakefield in the giant Yorkshire coalfield where the strike over state coal board plans to close loss-making pits began in March.

Police made 12 arrests in the coalfield during scuffles with 1,200 pickets outside Asker Colliery near Doncaster. They said stones were thrown, uprooted and lamp-posts torn down.

In South Wales, there were 10 arrests as picketing outside collieries was stepped up to a police estimate of a total 1,000.

The Parti Quebecois' popularity has plunged and Mr. Levesque decided this week that jobs, not statehood, should be the party's prime concern at the polls, widely expected next year.

Mr. Levesque has also adopted a more conciliatory tone towards the new federal government of Conservative Brian Mulroney, a move that Mr. Parizeau condemned as "a humiliating and sterile route".

He was joined by Social Affairs Minister Camille Laurin, author of Quebec's controversial "French only" language laws that govern everything from road signs to education.

The science, transport and women's affairs ministers also resigned as did three Parti Quebecois backbenchers, cutting Mr. Levesque's majority in the provincial assembly to 13.

Opinion polls show only 23 per cent of the Quebec electorate support Mr. Levesque.



PNC SESSION: Hundreds of Arab leaders, notables and observers from all over the world attended Friday's Palestine National Council (PNC) session at the Royal Cultural Centre (Photo by Youssef Al 'Allan)

## 3 Koreans killed in border shooting as Soviet tour guide defects

SEOUL (R) — Two North Korean soldiers and one from South Korea were killed in a gun battle Friday as a Soviet tour guide defected near the border village of Panmunjom, Western diplomats said.

The defector was apparently uninjured in the exchange of firing between North and South Korean border guards which broke out as he ran away from a group he was conducting on a tour in the area around Panmunjom, the spokesman said.

A U.S. embassy spokesman said the Russian was being held by the United Nations Command (UNC) "somewhere in Seoul" while details about him were being processed.

A UNC official said two North Korean soldiers were killed and two wounded when South Korean guards returned fire. One South Korean was killed and an American UNC soldier wounded in the firing, he said.

The incident, the first involving a Soviet defector in Korea, came at a time when North and South Korea had been improving their previously tense relations.

Panmunjom, 40 kilometres north of Seoul, was the site of unprecedented trade talks between both sides last week and Red Cross discussions this week.

Diplomats said the incident could cause a setback in the otherwise improving relations between the two countries and might also affect Seoul's efforts to improve links with Moscow.

Seoul does not have diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union or other Communist countries and has been adopting a warmer approach towards the Russians in a bid to prevent a Soviet boycott of the 1988 Olympic Games being held here.

Friday's incident occurred in the four kilometre wide demilitarised zone (DMZ) separating the two Koreas where an estimated total of 1.5 million forces face each other across the world's most fortified front line.

Firing breaks out from time to time between patrols or guard posts along the line where southern and northern forces fought to a standstill at the end of three-year Korean War in 1953.

Defectors from both sides also occasionally brave bullets, barbed wire, electrified fences and mines to escape to one side or the other. But this was the first defection involving a Russian, who was apparently showing Soviet tourists around the northern part of Panmunjom.

The Soviet Union, along with China, backed North Korea in the 1950-53 war and remains Pyongyang's main trading partner.

The most grisly incident at Panmunjom occurred in 1976 when North Korean military police axed to death two U.S. military officers.

## Thatcher party revolts over foreign aid

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative government touched off a major parliamentary revolt by its own supporters over a decision not to increase Britain's foreign aid.

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe told parliament Thursday that foreign aid would remain unchanged next year at £1.13 billion (\$1.39 billion).

A centrist opposition alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats tabled a motion condemning the move, and in a vote more than 60 Conservative members of parliament, including former Prime Minister Edward Heath, failed to support the government.

Eight Conservatives voted for the motion and more than 50 abstained. The abstainers included Mr. Heath and all five officials of the powerful Conservative Foreign Affairs Committee.

The British public has given millions of dollars in recent weeks to help famine victims in Ethiopia and many parliamentarians attacked the government's approach

to aid as niggardly.

Liberal leader David Steel said: "Whatever gloss or juggling is put on the figures, the truth is that for 1985-86 Britain's contribution to world aid is being cut in real terms."

Despite the revolt the government won the vote 311 to 184. Sir Geoffrey's statement ended speculation that the government planned aid cuts in a general curb on public spending. Critics say currency fluctuations and inflation in the Third World will effectively cut the value of Britain's overseas aid.

He said the BBC (British Broadcasting Corporation), whose external service is financed by the Foreign Office, would have to save about £1 million (\$1.23 million) or one per cent of its budget next year.

The British Council, which promotes British culture abroad, had been told to save £1.2 million (\$1.5 million) and 10 minor diplomatic posts, as yet unspecified, would be closed down to cut costs. The foreign secretary also attacked controversy Thursday when

he announced a British decision to quit UNESCO at the end of next year.

He said Britain planned to withdraw from the 161-member U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation unless it made more progress in reforming itself. Britain was not satisfied that value for money was being maintained from UNESCO.

Government supporters cheered his statement but there was criticism from ex-Prime Minister Heath and the opposition.

Envoys of almost 40 Commonwealth countries have called on Sir Geoffrey jointly urging him to oppose Britain's withdrawal from UNESCO.

The Foreign Office described session as a regular meeting to discuss developments in the Commonwealth. But British membership of UNESCO was the key issue.

The High Commissioners, as Commonwealth ambassadors are termed, had written to Sir Geoffrey urging Britain not to pull out of the Paris-based organisation.

## Ceausescu begins new five-year term

BUCHAREST (R) — Veteran Romanian leader Nicolae Ceausescu began a new five-year term as Communist Party chief Friday after his fourth successive re-appointment confirmed him as one of Eastern Europe's most durable leaders.

Hundreds of Romanians marched through the capital Bucharest Thursday night bearing placards in praise of the 66-year-old Communist leader in an orchestrated demonstration of support after his re-election at the end of the 13th party congress.

Western diplomats who monitored Mr. Ceausescu's performance closely from the opening of the congress last Monday said it had underscored his tight grip on the party apparatus and the absence of any political rival.

Mr. Ceausescu, a slightly-built

man of puritanical habits and a restless passion for work, seems in good health. He spoke for four-and-a-half hours last Monday in delivering his keynote report, apparently without overtaking himself. He then spoke for an hour after his re-election.

"Ceausescu is completely in charge. There is not a rival in sight. He could go on for years like this and turn out to be one of the real 'veterans of Communist Europe,'" said one diplomat.

Party general secretary since 1965 and is also state president of one of Eastern Europe's most austere societies, Mr. Ceausescu was re-appointed on a tide of officially-sponsored euphoria in the congress hall and the state-controlled media.

Synchronised chanting from the 3,100 delegates at the congress called for his re-election from the first day and his re-appointment was never in doubt.

After his re-election Thursday night, he delivered an hour-long speech in which he warned the country's 23 million population of further economic hardships before better times emerged.

The congress had earlier approved his report which called for continued economic austerity as part of moves to pay off a \$7.5 billion foreign debt.

"We shall have to make efforts and repeat many hardships. We are not afraid of the hardships we have to overcome," he said.

There was little immediate change in the leadership of the party with a virtually unchanged political Executive Committee (politburo) being voted in.

## Thousands attend funeral of slain Basque leader

BILBAO, Spain (R) — Tens of thousands of Basques poured into the streets of this northern Spanish city Thursday night in tribute to a separatist leader killed by gunmen.

The funeral procession for Santiago Brouard, shot on Tuesday by a shadowy anti-guerrilla death squad, came amid sporadic riots and a one-day general protest strike which paralysed the region.

Mr. Brouard was a leader of the radical Herri Batasuna (Popular Unity) Coalition, regarded as the political arm of the separatist guerrilla organisation ETA.

On Wednesday ETA gunmen wounded retired Gen. Luis Roson and his military driver in reprisal

for Mr. Brouard's death.

Many in the crowd who turned out to see Mr. Brouard's flower-decked coffin shouted pro-ETA and anti-government slogans and sang Basque hymns and songs.

Some 300 buses and cars went on to Mr. Brouard's home town of Lekeitio, east of here, to attend a service.

Before and after the funeral, youths across the Basque country clashed with riot police, attacked property and blocked traffic with barricades. Several arrests were made and a boy was hit in the eye by a rubber bullet fired by police.

Earlier in the day, two bombs

planted by ETA went off in San Sebastian and Bilbao.

Except for the protest rallies, the streets of Basque towns were deserted as the strike called by Basque political parties and trade unions halted industry, commerce and transport.

Mr. Brouard, a 64-year-old pediatrician, was shot several times in his Bilbao surgery by gunmen who later said they were members of the Anti-Terrorist Liberation Group (GAL).

It has killed nine Basque separatists since it appeared last year. Police believe the death squad murdered Mr. Brouard in revenge for ETA's slaying of a man linked to GAL last Friday.

In a statement published in Basque media Thursday, ETA said it was also responsible for shooting Gen. Roson, 66. Doctors said Thursday night his condition had stabilised but his life was still in danger. The driver was reported to be recovering.

The series of shootings this week has dismayed government officials who had hoped for progress in achieving a negotiated solution to 16 years of Basque political violence.

The bloodshed came just a week after the Socialist government was reported to have contacted ETA leaders with a view to peace talks.

## COLUMN

### British yacht crew held for suspected drug smuggling

BEIRUT (R) — The crew of a British-owned yacht has been arrested for suspected narcotics trafficking after it anchored illegally off the north Lebanese port of Tripoli, a military source said Thursday. He said the vessel, the Sea Victory, was brought to Beirut harbour for investigation by narcotics officials. The yacht's crew, four British men and two Swedish women, told coastal officials after entering Lebanese territorial waters they needed to make repairs, the source said. But the Cypriot-registered vessel, which was travelling from the Israeli port of Haifa, anchored on Tuesday without permission between Tripoli and a nearby harbour, used in the past for smuggling, he added.

### Crocodile runs amok at Cairo Airport

CAIRO (R) — A freight section of Cairo Airport echoed with screams when a crocodile broke out of its cage and slithered amok, officials said Friday. They said the crocodile, among a consignment of beasts which arrived Thursday from Harare en route to Tel Aviv, freed itself when the effects of sedation wore off. It crawled between crates while panic-stricken attendants screamed and fled, seeking help. Workers managed to grab the fugitive and tie it up until a vet injected it with drugs to keep it quiet for its ongoing flight.

### Woman kidnapped for seven years

RED BLUFF, California (R) — A 27-year-old woman has told authorities she was held captive by a man for seven years during which she was blindfolded, handcuffed and kept in a locked box, police said. Cameron Hooker, 31, was arrested on Sunday and is being held on multiple charges of kidnapping and rape. The woman, who was not identified, said that in 1977 a man picked her up while she was hitchhiking, threatened her with a knife and took her to his home in this north California town. "She was placed in a small box in the basement," police said. "The next day she was moved to a larger box, in which she had no room to turn around." Officers said that in May of this year the man allowed her out to look for a job, and she returned each day "out of fear for herself and her family." In August, the woman consulted a clergyman, who said he did not realise she was being held against her will. "I thought it was just one of those modern marriages," he said.

### Research couple catch love-bug

LONDON (R) — Newlyweds David and Susan Threlfall plan a honeymoon next week at a research centre where they met as volunteer "guinea-pigs" for doctors seeking a cure for the common cold. In between blowing noses, they had to blow kisses when they fell in love at the unit last year where strict rules keep paid volunteers from approaching within nine metres of each other, to avoid cross-infection as they test cold viruses. "We kept a length of string between us to show staff we were not breaking the rules," busdriver David, 41, said Thursday. But this time as a married couple, David and Susan, 36, a receptionist, will be allowed a little togetherness as they try jointly — to catch cold again at Britain's Common Cold Research Centre in Salisbury.

### World record price paid for violin

LONDON (R) — A Stradivarius Violin was sold Thursday for nearly £400,000 (\$492,000) a record price for a musical instrument, the auctioneers said. Peter Biddulph, head of London's largest musical dealers, paid a total £396,000 (\$487,000) for the violin, made in 1707 by Antonio Stradivari. Called "La Cathedrale" for its tone, the violin is reputed to have been once owned by an officer in Napoleon's army. Another owner was a musician to French Queen Marie-Antoinette, guillotined in the French Revolution. Mr. Biddulph said the instrument would go to an anonymous buyer in Europe, who played the violin but was not a professional. He said that of up to 700 Stradivarius violins in the world, this was the finest to come up for sale.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q1 — As South vulnerable, you hold:  
♠A93 ♠AJ985 ♦AQ6 ♣85  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♥ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AKJ1087 ♥Q3 ♦AK95 ♣6  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ 2 ♥ Pass Pass  
? What action do you take?

Q3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠98742 ♥Q3 ♦AKJ6 ♣93  
The bidding has proceeded:  
West North East South  
1 ♠ 1 ♥ Pass ?  
What action do you take?

Q4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠J764 ♥10983 ♦K64 ♠A8  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♥ Dble ?  
What do you bid now?

Q5 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠J654 ♥109532 ♦J62 ♠4  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Pass Pass 1 ♥  
2 ♥ Pass ?  
What do you bid now?

Q6 — East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠AK ♥Q982 ♦AKJ63 ♠A5  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♥ 1 NT Pass Pass  
? What action do you take?